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PAGE 15

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17 1996



## THE TIMES GREAT SEASON OF SPORT



**THE GREATEST GOAL  
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Brian Glanville on  
Pele scoring against  
Sweden, PAGE 43



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PETER NICHOLLS

'Major lapse' forces resignation

## Church faces celibacy row as bishop goes

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A NEW crisis over celibacy threatened the stability of the Roman Catholic Church last night after the resignation of the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, who is believed to be in hiding with the woman he loves.

The Right Rev Roderick Wright quit during an emotional meeting with the leader of Scotland's Roman Catholics, who told him that he could remain a priest only if he gave up his longstanding friendship with Kathleen Macphee, a divorced mother of three. The two disappeared last Monday.

The Archbishop of Glasgow, Cardinal Thomas Winning, said yesterday that Bishop Wright had been guilty of a major lapse and did not appear to realise the trauma that he had caused others. But if someone had fallen, it did not mean that they could not be penitent and Cardinal Winning hoped that he would continue his ministry. "I think in his heart of hearts, that is what he has done."

The Cardinal's unbending line, while in strict accordance with Catholic law, is unlikely to go down well in a church where growing numbers of bishops, priests and laity are concerned that the celibacy rule is robbing them of hundreds of good priests and pastors. Many, while unwilling to say so in public, believe that change is essential.

Celibacy has been a requirement of the Latin church since the 11th century and was a tradition long before then. But the pressure for change is



Friends' sorrow, page 2

es and the chief difficulty when appointing bishops is to find a priest without a common-law wife.

In fact, Bishop Wright has not broken canon law, since the technical meaning of celibacy is to be unmarried. However, priests are enjoined not to cause scandal, so he had no choice but to resign. In his letter to the Pope, Bishop Wright expressed his wish to remain a committed member of the church, but said: "I am

growing about a hundred married former Anglican clergy expected to be ordained into the Catholic church in the coming months. In spite of the apparent double standards, the church still demands celibacy of priests who start with it from scratch.

Now, many people believe that Bishop Wright's resignation will add to the pressure on the Pope, who is facing serious difficulties in Africa and Latin America, where many priests live openly with their mistresses.

Bishop Wright, 55, made his decision after disappearing from his Oban home at the same time as Mrs Macphee, 40, left her house in Fort William. And yesterday, Cardinal Winning described the "very emotional" hour-long meeting in Glasgow on Sunday night when it was agreed that the bishop should resign.

"He was insistent on expressing his deep sorrow, regret and hurt caused by his sudden disappearance. I think that the man has been under terrible strain for months, if not years, and having lost a very close sister in the last few months, he was at the end of his tether. He insisted on resigning."

Cardinal Winning had not asked whether the bishop's relationship with Mrs Macphee had been sexual one. "He had a longstanding friendship with this lady. You don't need to ask all the questions — you can answer some of them."

He added: "I was not aware of his Achilles heel, his weak spot. But he is a good man and generous enough to give his life to the church. Here we are regretting a major lapse and it is sad. But the church is bigger than that and it survives."

The resignation must be formally accepted by the Pope before the search for a replacement can begin.

Friends' sorrow, page 2



Anna Ford yesterday after Brian Mawhinney, the Tory chairman, accused her of extreme rudeness, aggression and open hostility to the Chancellor

## Furious Tories blame BBC for Clarke blunder

By ALICE THOMSON  
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Conservative Party accused Anna Ford, the Today programme presenter, of "a disgraceful lapse from impartiality" in an interview with Kenneth Clarke yesterday which was abruptly ended by the Chancellor.

It lodged a complaint with the BBC alleging that Ms Ford had been extremely rude in an early morning radio confrontation. Brian Mawhinney, the Tory Party Chairman, wrote to John Birt, the BBC Director General, that Mr Clarke had

been unable to get his point across because Ms Ford had been so aggressive. He complained that she had been openly hostile and had repeatedly interrupted the Chancellor, who was not given the chance to develop his points.

The Labour leadership contended that Dr Mawhinney was upset because Ms Ford had persuaded Mr Clarke to admit that the Labour Party was no longer the threat it once was. In so doing he had torpedoed the Tories' central election strategy.

The Chancellor made his blunder when he was asked by

Ms Ford if he was pleased that Labour seemed to be changing. He replied: "I am pleased that Labour is not such a threat to the national interest. When we used to have, for instance, Michael Foot leading the party it was a very, very serious threat to this country." Mr Clarke's candid admission appeared to go flatly against the Tories' "demon eyes" campaign theme of "New Labour, New Danger". It also contradicted Dr Mawhinney's carefully orchestrated pre-election campaign which aims to show that New Labour means "new

danger in every aspect of people's lives".

Only an hour before the interview Dr Mawhinney had been with the Chancellor launching the latest Tory poster. It featured the Labour demon eyes looking down at the figure of £700 and a Labour hand reaching out to grab the money. At the foot of the poster a caption read: "This year the average family has £700 more spending money, after tax and inflation, than at the last election."

During the interview, Ms

Continued on page 2, col 4



Clarke: Labour "not such a threat" as it once was

## Prince to take on more duties

The Prince of Wales will take over an increasing number of official duties from the Queen but he must face his public role without Camilla Parker Bowles.

Members of the Royal Family gathered at Balmoral for a twice-yearly planning meeting. The hope is that the Prince will now shoulder more of the burden currently borne by the Queen.... Page 2

Clinton backs off

As an aircraft carrier battle group arrived in the Red Sea and squadrons of fighters and Stealth bombers sat on the tarmac at a Kuwait base President Clinton backed away from bellicose pronouncements and said that America had sought no confrontation with Iraq. Page 10

## Hogg poised to cut cull if 'hopeless' mission fails

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE Florence deal for an end to the British beef ban seemed shakier than ever last night after EU ministers told Britain it must stick to a slaughter programme and Douglas Hogg, the Agriculture Minister, voiced doubts on Europe's intention to keep its speed or eradication of mad cow disease.

Ivan Yates, the Irish minister and chairman of the EU farm council, said Britain's commitment to cull more than 100,000 cattle was part of the

Florence accord. Depicting himself as an honest broker between Britain and the other EU states, Mr Yates said there were prospects for easing the ban on grass-fed herds, certified free of BSE, provided that Britain met its slaughter obligations. His stand was backed by Jacques Santer, president of the EU Commission. "We don't need headlines every fortnight. We need to stick to agreements," he said.

Mr Hogg fuelled speculation that Britain could adopt its own slaughter policy. The Government, he said, would "have to assess the extent to which European governments are able or willing to rapidly and substantially lift the ban in accordance with the Florence agreement". He noted

that Germany, France and other states had imposed their own anti-BSE measures against British beef products in breach of EU decisions.

British official sources indicated that Mr Hogg's near-hopeless mission was a last attempt to sway the EU before the Government switches policy, cutting the cull and accepting a long-standing EU ban.

Senior EU officials said they were aware that John Major now stood little chance of winning Commons approval for the slaughter plan agreed at Florence.

Facing a wall of resistance from the other EU ministers, Mr Hogg is expected to receive a frosty reception when the British plan comes up for formal discussion today.

Writing in *The Times* Mr Ashdown says: "The governance of the European Union is currently wide, weak and loosely defined, when it ought to be narrow, strong and

sharply defined." Mr Ashdown is adamant that his statement of position, drawn up after talks during the summer with the party's spokesman on Europe, Charles Kennedy, does not in any way suggest that he or his party is becoming more Eurosceptic.

The Liberal Democrat leader's article reaffirms the party's support for the single currency and the social chapter. He suggests that if Germany builds a federal core within the EU the "core activities" to be pursued by all member states should be freedoms of movement of people, money, goods and services — the foundations of the single market.

Philip Webster, political editor

sharply defined." Mr Ashdown is adamant that his statement of position, drawn up after talks during the summer with the party's spokesman on Europe, Charles Kennedy, does not in any way suggest that he or his party is becoming more Eurosceptic.

In a move that will be seen as responding to growing fears that his party's pro-Europeanism may deter voters, the Liberal Democrat leader calls on the EU to shake up its priorities, become less fussy and bossy, and to do less while doing it better.

He also becomes the first political leader to suggest that the EU should have a right of voluntary secession, allowing member states to leave if they wish.

Writing in *The Times* Mr Ashdown says: "The governance of the European Union is currently wide, weak and loosely defined, when it ought to be narrow, strong and

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TV & RADIO ..... 47, 48  
WEATHER ..... 24  
CROSSWORD ..... 24, 48

LETTERS ..... 17  
OBITUARIES ..... 19  
LIBBY PURVES ..... 16

ARTS ..... 33-35  
CHESS & BRIDGE ..... 43  
COURT & SOCIAL ..... 18

SPORT ..... 43-46, 48  
BODY AND MIND ..... 14  
LAW REPORT ..... 21

55

# Prince's duties will exclude Parker Bowles

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE Prince of Wales will take over an increasing number of official duties from the Queen in future, but he faces life without Camilla Parker Bowles in any of his public roles.

Members of the Royal Family and their senior advisers gathered at Balmoral yesterday for their twice-yearly planning meeting. The hope is that the Prince, freed from the preoccupation of his divorce, will now take a more active role in shouldering more of the burden currently borne by the Queen, who, although in excellent health, is now in her 71st year.

But the Prince has been left in no

doubt that his public and official life must exclude Mrs Parker Bowles. Palace sources said last night that the thorny question of the Prince's relationship with the divorcee had not been discussed at yesterday's meeting, but at a preliminary weekend audience with the Queen John Major is thought to have reminded her of the undertaking given to him by the Prince at the beginning of this year that he would keep his relationship with Mrs Parker Bowles a private matter.

The Prince has already begun to take over some official duties from the Queen, including conducting the six extra investitures created each year by Mr Major's overhaul of the

honours system. In addition, in pursuit of his own charitable and environmental interests, it was learnt yesterday that the Prince had had a private and unannounced meeting with James Wolfensohn, president of the World Bank, in New York, to discuss how business worldwide could help poor and developing communities.

Yesterday's Balmoral meeting, widely billed as a "summit" but in fact more of a forward planning meeting on home and overseas visits, was attended by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Duke of York and Prince Edward. Senior Palace officials

present included Sir Robert Fellowes and Robin Janvrin, the Queen's principal private secretaries; Commander Richard Aylard, the Prince of Wales's private secretary; the Earl of Airlie, the Lord Chamberlain; and Michael Peat, Keeper of the Privy Purse and the Queen's financial director.

The meeting, known as the Way Ahead Group, is also understood to have discussed an increased public role for the Duke of York when he leaves the Royal Navy next year; a change in the pattern of state visits at home and abroad to make them more informal; and possible further streamlining of royal finances, with increasing parliamentary inter-

est in the way taxpayers' money is spent.

But despite widespread speculation, the meeting did not tackle constitutional matters such as ending the monarch's traditional role as head of the Church of England, changing the 1701 Act of Settlement to allow Roman Catholics to marry into the Royal Family, repealing the 1772 Royal Marriages Act which requires even the most minor royals to seek the Queen's permission to marry, and changing the tradition of male primogeniture which allows a woman to succeed to the throne only if she has no brothers. A Palace spokesman said last night: "The Way Ahead group is

conscious of all these issues, but no early decision is contemplated on anything to do with the constitution."

Apart from any other reason, constitutional changes would take up an undue amount of parliamentary time, not only in Britain but in the 15 other Commonwealth countries of which the Queen is head of state, all of which would have to approve the changes. In federal nations such as Australia, changes would have to be approved even by individual state legislatures.

Most of the constitutional reforms under discussion are unlikely to occur until the Prince of Wales ascends the throne.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Solicitors to oppose legal aid reform

More than 5,000 solicitors have signed up to take part in an unprecedented campaign of opposition by the Law Society against the Government's legal aid reforms.

The society has employed Sir Tim Bell's Lowe Bell, public relations consultants, to head the attack.

Solicitors are being urged to help "explode the myths about legal aid" by using media and parliamentary contacts and producing examples of where legal aid has helped people.

A Law Society spokesman said: "At well under one per cent of public expenditure, legal aid represents a bargain for the public."

### Man shot dead in Belfast house

A man was shot dead in Belfast yesterday by suspected Republican terrorists. He was shot in the head at least three times after two gunmen burst into a house in the Republican Markets area of the city.

The victim, who was in his early thirties, was visiting a friend when he was shot. A 12-year-old girl is believed to have witnessed the attack.

### UK 'is guilty of rights violations'

The United Kingdom is guilty of at least 42 violations of its international human rights obligations, according to a report published yesterday.

*The Three Pillars of Liberty*, from the Human Rights Centre at Essex University, says the most serious violations are the lack of privacy laws or comprehensive anti-discrimination laws. The authors blame the lack of a written constitution.

### Major rebuked for star turn

John Major was yesterday criticised by the Royal Greenwich Observatory after backing the naming of a star to commemorate the victims of the Dunblane massacre.

Astronomers said he had no right to lend his support because the International Star Registry had no right to name stars. Dr Robin Catchpole, of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, said: "It has no credibility whatsoever."

### Housman gains Abbey honour

A. E. Housman gains a place in Poet's Corner at Westminster Abbey today, 50 years after his death and a century after the publication of his collection *A Shropshire Lad*. The late Sir Kingsley Amis, Dame Iris Murdoch and Housman's most famous student, Enoch Powell, are among those who have lobbied for the memorial window. Alan Bennett will read selected works.

THE FINALS  
Champions  
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# Labour will make the good times last, pledges Blair

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR promised last night that a Labour government would aim to make the "good times last" by lowering taxes and enabling people to spend more.

In a substantial economic speech designed to lift Labour above its recent internal problems, Mr Blair said that the party would offer sustainable growth rather than the boom or bust that the Tories had delivered.

Over the past few days Mr Blair has seen relations with trade unions plummet to a new low, with reports that he was considering breaking the union link entirely. Yesterday he said that he had no intention of "dumping" the unions, but made clear that they might have less influence on the

## New party must calm old fears

### RIDDELL ON POLITICS

intention, they were contradicted by the tone of his speech. Consumer spending will have to be constrained if investment is to be increased.

Mr Blair's real millennium challenge is to show what Labour would do to change Britain. He is confident in his own mind that a Blair government would have proved its radicalism if in a first term it could reform welfare, improve educational standards, establish a partnership with business, decentralise decisions and achieve a more effective role within Europe.

He is asking the right questions, but will his party allow him to provide the right answers? A good test of "new" Labour's realism will be whether the conference ignores Barbara Castle's appeal to restore the link between retirement pensions and earnings in the annual uprating.

As Harriet Harman has argued, that is the wrong way to help the elderly poor. Cheering an old trouper is not the same as being serious about government. If Labour is really to be business friendly, it cannot afford such self-indulgence only a few months before a general election.

PETER RIDDELL

Woodrow Wyatt and Libby Purves, page 16

party in future. Earlier he backed his frontbencher Kim Howells after he had caused a storm by asking the party to drop the term "socialism".

Speaking to the London International Financial Futures Exchanges last night, Mr Blair tried to put that all behind him as he said that Labour would strive to raise living standards in Britain and make everyone better off.

The party's political opponents portrayed the Labour Party as bunch of "killjoys", always opposing tax cuts and increases in living standards. Mr Blair said: "Nothing could be further from the truth. We want people to consume more. We want high quality public services. We want people to pay lower taxes. But we want

long term investment was crucial to sustained growth of living standards and lasting tax reductions. That could be encouraged by the tax system and by the behaviour of the financial markets, he argued.

Mr Blair admitted that not everything was bad with the current economic situation, and Labour would not jeopardise the fragile recovery. There are good and welcome success stories. We do not intend to switch the clock back, either on trade unions or the need for a healthy competitive market economy."

"Instead of changing what has worked, let us address that which isn't working and see how we can build a rise in living standards that lasts," he said. "We want to build solid foundations that will enable all our people to consume more and pay lower taxes on a sustainable basis."

Mr Blair made little reference to the turmoil following briefings over the party's links with the unions. But he underlined an change.

"The trade union relationship is being re-cast for the modern day," he said. "There was and is no secret plan to 'dump' unions. But today many more trade unionists are joining as ordinary members of the party, and ordinary party delegates now have the majority of votes at party conference. Business people as well as employees are joining us. There is a process that is not about disowning our past, but refusing to live in it."

The Labour leader said that he personally used the word "socialism" but "the kernel" of Mr Howells's argument was quite correct: "What we have got to be about is the best practical means to deliver a different type of society in Britain today that faces that modern world, that is based absolutely on our values but isn't tied to some outdated form of ideology."

Libby Purves, page 16



Kathleen and William MacPhee. The bishop counselled her after their divorce

## Bishop's friends respond with sadness and support

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

COLLEAGUES and friends of Roderick Wright expressed sadness and support for the missing bishop after hearing of his resignation last night.

The Rev Roddy Johnston, Deacon at St Columba's Catholic Cathedral in Oban, where the bishop was based, described him as a wise and holy man who genuinely cared for people, and who would be a sad loss to the church.

"My reaction is some sadness that he has resigned, but I would wish him every best wish and hope that he finds happiness and some peace," Mr Johnston said.

"I am glad that he is safe. I have known him since he was ordained five years ago when I began training for the ministry. He was a great inspiration. He goes with my love and my support and I hope the parish feels the same."

Mr Johnston last saw the bishop three weeks ago and had had no inkling that he was in any spiritual or emotional distress. He said that the last thing that Bishop



Wright described as sad loss to Church

Wright would have wanted to cause worry to his colleagues, family and parishioners or any trouble for the Church.

Rumours about the bishop's relationship with Kathleen MacPhee, the 40-year-old mother-of-three he is believed to be with, were common in Fort William. The two have been close friends for some years after he counselled Mrs MacPhee after her divorce. They were said to have taken holidays together. Yesterday the blinds were

drawn at the semi-detached home in Inverlochy, Fort William, where Mrs MacPhee lives with her two younger children. Neighbours said that they had not seen her since last Wednesday and that they wished her and the bishop well.

One man who lives across the road said: "She is a good neighbour and the bishop is a cracking bloke, just an ordinary guy. I have seen him a couple of times. Good luck to them."

Belford Hospital, where Mrs MacPhee has worked as a nurse for two years, said she had not been to work for more than a week. The hospital had not received a letter of resignation or any explanation of her absence.

In the Irish Republic, where Bishop Wright has relatives, there was also sadness at his resignation. In the seaside village of Annagary, Co Donegal, Anne Sharkey, whose late husband was a cousin of the bishop, said: "It is so sad because he is such a nice man. All his relatives in Annagary think very highly of him."



Winning: was tipped to become next Pope

## Angry Tories blame BBC for Clarke blunder

Continued from page 1

did not feel "rather silly being made to go and stand in front of these posters continually". She then challenged him: "You are the party who said you were not going to put up taxes and you put up VAT 22 times."

When Mr Clarke tried to interrupt, Ms Ford, saying she was drawing the interview to a close, asked him: "So you are not going to elevate the debate?" Mr Clarke put the phone down.

Ms Ford refused to comment, but

BBC journalists said that it was her tough political questioning that had forced a gaffe out of the Chancellor. Reporters on the *Today* programme also made clear privately that it was "judicrous" if Mr Clarke, who is a pretty robust man, could not cope with a little gentle probing by Anna Ford and had to be rescued by Dr Mawhinney". They said that Ms Ford had no private grudge against the Chancellor and was a "total professional", but they accepted that aggressive questioning was a

style she used on the programme which she co-presents 30 times a year. Central Office said that it had been inundated by calls from Conservatives complaining about the programme and that it had taken the "exceptional step" of issuing a formal complaint because Ms Ford's questions looked as though they had come from a Labour "spin doctor". Dr Mawhinney said that, in a subsequent interview, Tony Blair had been treated with "the utmost courtesy".

Lord Archer came to Mr Clarke's defence. He said that he also believed that Labour was no longer the threat to the national interest it once was. "That is an achievement of Margaret Thatcher," he said. "It is not to be muddled up with anything else. She has moved the party to the right."

Ms Ford allowed photographers into her West London garden yesterday where she appeared relaxed and unrepentant. She said she did not know what all the fuss was about.

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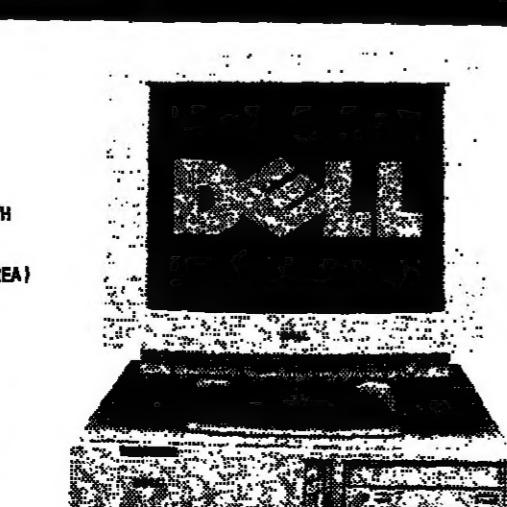
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Champion Hurdler led to safety after suspected arson attack at leading trainer's yard

## Four racehorses killed in midnight fire at stables

BY RICHARD EVANS  
RACING CORRESPONDENT  
AND BILL FROST

FOUR racehorses died after a suspected arson attack on the stables of Jim Old, one of Britain's leading trainers, yesterday. Two were killed in the fire, which started just after midnight in an indoor riding barn. The other two died as a result of injuries as they tried to escape.

Forty horses were in the barn at Upper Hurdwick Farm, on the Marlborough Downs near Swindon, and it was only due to the actions of neighbours and stable staff that many of the horses survived the fire.

One of the rescuers was Merrick Francis, son of the author Dick Francis, who helped to save Collier Bay, which won the Champion Hurdle at the Cheltenham Festival in March. Mr Francis, who runs a horse transport business, provided a haven for eight thoroughbreds when he arrived from Lambourn with one of his lorries.

He said that he received a call for help at 3am and rushed to the scene with a horsebox. "We were scrambling around in the dark and the cold. It was the desolation on the faces of Jim and his staff that really got to me. We must have walked more than four miles looking for stray



Francis rushed to the scene with a horsebox

horses. It was a thick, black night. You could not see your hand in front of your face."

The blaze was discovered by Brian Simpson, a neighbour, and it took 26 firefighters an hour to bring the flames under control. A Wiltshire fire investigation team spokesman said: "We are treating the fire as being of doubtful origin."

Mr Old, 49, was close to tears when he spoke of the pandemonium as he and a dozen stable lads tried to save the horses. "My staff were quite brilliant," he said. "A few more minutes and it would have been a total disaster. The smoke would have killed the horses."

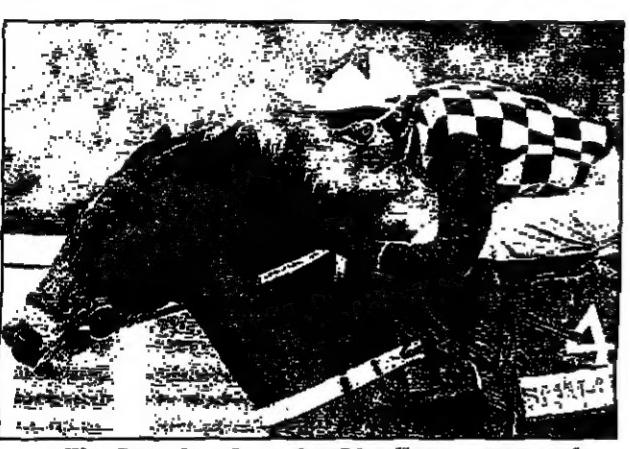
"We turned the horses out into the paddock, but they were so terrified they bolted.

It was a view shared by firemen at the scene who were still damping down burning straw late yesterday afternoon. One said: "There is no electrical power source here that might have started this and, in the absence of that cause, there are only a limited number of other options."

Mr Old moved to the 280-acre site six years ago. For several seasons, his horses were afflicted by a virus, but the bad luck which has dogged his career appeared to have relented — until yesterday.

There have been attacks on horses put out to graze locally. However, this would be the first time an arsonist had struck against such valuable animals. Although the stables, near Barbury Castle, are surrounded by high wire fencing, any reasonably agile intruder could climb over the gate to the block beyond.

Mr Old lives at the stables with Anne Marie Dartnall, the estranged wife of a former estate manager at Barbury Castle. Her husband, Victor, left the area 18 months ago and now trains point-to-pointers at South Moulton, Devon. Mr Old's ex-wife, Sally Anne, moved to Cornwall when the couple were divorced about a year ago.



Collier Bay, the Champion Hurdler, was rescued



Jim Old, left, and Paul Ferguson, a vet, yesterday. The fire destroyed much of the indoor riding school, below



## Anger over paedophile sentence

BY JOANNA BALE

A PAEDOPHILE who offered to rape young children for a pornographic video was facing a maximum sentence of two years in jail yesterday, prompting calls for more stringent punishment.

Dennis Hundermark, 49, admitted at the Old Bailey that he came from South Africa to Europe to live out his fantasy of starring in a child sex film. He was caught after he approached an undercover police officer who was posing as a video producer.

Hundermark told the members of Scotland Yard's paedophilia and child pornography unit that he was prepared to rape any child, regardless of age or sex. He was arrested before he could live out his fantasies. He admitted incitement to procure a girl under 21 for sexual intercourse, a charge which carries a maximum two years' jail.

Malcolm Fortune, for the prosecution, told the court that he had been unable to find other offences committed by Hundermark which carried a higher term and described the sentence as inadequate. Hundermark was remanded in custody for reports.

Wendy Toms, of ChildLine, said: "If this is the maximum sentence under existing law, then it needs tightening. We hope new paedophile legislation will deal with offences of this kind."

## Mystery attack never happened

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A LAW lecturer who was accused of beating a girlfriend so badly that she went into a coma was cleared yesterday after medical experts said that she was an undiagnosed epileptic and had probably never been assaulted.

Hugh Stowe, 29, had always denied attacking Joanna Perkins, 28, a fellow lecturer in the law school at Durham University, at the end of a night out in April 1994. She was found collapsed in her university flat two days later.

Yesterday the prosecution offered no evidence on a charge of grievous bodily harm at Durham Crown Court. Christopher Knox, for the prosecution, said: "Joanna Perkins and the defendant had been out together socially. They returned to his flat. Later that night she made her way back to her flat and was found two days later in a coma."

She was dressed ready for bed but was found on the floor. Precisely how she came to be in that coma was initially difficult to establish but cannot be attributed to this defendant. She was ill for some time. The cause of her condition was the starting point for these proceedings.

This year the defence disclosed a number of reports from eminent medical advisers. Four doctors, including two professors of neurology, say the illness was not caused



Stowe: cleared because woman was epileptic

## Royal PC 'hurt driver after crash'

BY MICHAEL HORNSLAW

A ROYALTY protection officer injured a woman by deliberately swinging a car door open after a row following a collision, it was alleged yesterday.

PC Stephen Dunsdon hit Carolyn Ferguson on the wrist after swearing at her, Southwark Crown Court was told. He had shown her his warrant card but refused to give his name and number.

Postal worker Miss Ferguson, said she was afraid of the officer, who was "ranting and raving".

PC Dunsdon, who denies assaulting the woman, was a passenger in a Citroen 2CV driven by his brother, PC Nicholas Dunsdon, who was on his way to work in May last year. The two women were also on their way to work when the collision happened near Tower Hill, London.

Tim Probert-Wood, for the prosecution, said Stephen Dunsdon swore at Mr Thomas and tried to usher Miss Ferguson back into the car. After producing his warrant card he became increasingly intimidating, said Mr Probert-Wood.

As the two officers prepared to drive away, Miss Ferguson, from Purfleet, Essex, tapped on the passenger window. PC Dunsdon allegedly threw open the passenger door hard, hitting her on the left wrist.

The trial continues today.

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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT

## 'Satanic' multiple rapist given life sentence

BY RICHARD DUKE

A MULTIPLE rapist, twice released from prison only to attack women again, was jailed for life yesterday with the recommendation that he serve at least 20 years. The judge said the behaviour of Harry Bannerman, 55, towards his vulnerable victims had verged on the "satanic".

Chelmsford Crown Court was told that Bannerman had been jailed in 1971 for the rape of a nine-year-old and again in 1980 for raping a woman, aged 39, when he moved to Essex and changed his name.

While working at a home for the elderly, he had begun to prowl the grounds of nearby psychiatric hospitals in search of victims. Bannerman, often known to have posed as an army officer, first lured a 67-year-old woman into his car before raping her. Nine months later, armed with a knife, he raped a second victim, aged 33.

Judge Peter Greenwood told Bannerman yesterday: "You are an evil and wicked man — and more importantly you are a danger to the public. You behaved quite atrociously and your conduct was verging on the satanic."

Bannerman had appeared for sentence yesterday after earlier admitting charges of rape and false imprisonment. He was first jailed in 1971, for raping the nine-year-old and attempting to rape a 12-year-old. He offered both girls 10p to keep them quiet. In 1975, seven months after his release, he was jailed for three years at Exeter Crown Court on a charge of "child stealing". In 1980 he raped a 39-year-old housewife in woods near Manchester. He served eight years.

The 53-year-old woman he raped at knifepoint was a chronic schizophrenic. Eventually police received an anonymous note which led to Bannerman's arrest.

John Whittingdale, Conservative MP for Colchester South and Maldon, said yesterday: "This is exactly the kind of case the proposals for automatic life sentences for rape offenders is designed to address."



## Fine for woman who lured child workers with dance classes



BY JOANNA BALE

A COMPANY director used young girls as "slave labour" after luring them to her factory with an offer of free Indian dance lessons.

Sumitra Barot, 30, reassured their parents by showing them pictures of a girl in traditional dress at a display. But after a few classes, she put the girls to work packing spices.

At the end of their six-hour shifts the children, some as young as ten, were ordered to line up in front of Barot's 51-year-old manager, Rammik

Modi, who would decide whether they deserved to be paid. They were given as little as £2.50 or a box of chocolates. One girl cried and begged to be allowed home on her first day but was forced to continue. Northampton Crown Court was told yesterday.

Judge Francis Allen said he wished that he had the power to jail Barot and Modi but the law would allow him only to fine them. "Such abuse of young children is wholly unacceptable. In my view, these matters are so serious that a court should consider imprisonment, but Parliament has

given no such power to the courts to pass such a sentence."

Barot, of Corby, Northamptonshire, admitted six charges of employing children at MTL (UK) in Corby. Modi, of Oadby, Leicestershire, admitted five charges. Barot was fined £4,500 with £500 costs and Modi £7,500 with £1,000 costs.

Judge Allen also imposed a £14,000 fine on the company, which had admitted six counts of employing children and a charge under the Factories Act. After being told that it had been left penniless by the company's collapse.

Outside the court, one angry mother said: "It is true what the judge said that those two abused those children. My daughter is still very upset by

the whole thing, but they've been allowed to escape with fines. They should have gone to prison. They haven't even been disqualified as directors. It's a disgrace."

"Modi has even been allowed to take the assets of a company in which he used children as slave labour and use them to start up in business again. It's all wrong."

Modi and Barot were jeered as they left court. They declined to comment but a statement issued jointly by their solicitors said: "They want to get on with their

respective businesses and put all this behind them."

An earlier hearing was told that the children were used to fill and label jars and packers of mango chutney, curry pastes, curry powder and spices. They used high-temperature heat-sealing machines and several children cut themselves as they used craft knives to open boxes.

They were put to work at weekends and during school holidays and were given child-size overalls to wear. The Health and Safety Executive began an inquiry when the girls' parents complained.

## Manager unfairly sacked for eating an orange

BY JOANNA BALE

A SUPERMARKET manager was sacked for eating a damaged clementine worth 15p, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday. Paul Freake, 31, lost his job as a Sainsbury products department manager after John Guiver, his supervisor, saw him eating the fruit in a storeroom. The orange had been withdrawn from sale because its peel was split.

Mr Freake, who was represented by his local vicar, the Rev Clifford Rosewell, was dismissed from the store at Crystal Palace, southeast London, after 11 years' service.

Mr Guiver, a store manager, said he was shocked when he saw his colleague biting the clementine and was so furious that he had to leave the room to calm down. He suspended Mr Freake immediately from his £17,700 job — which also earned him £2,300 in bonuses — two weeks before he was due to get married.

Mr Guiver said: "I saw Paul consuming some citrus. The peel was evident on the side on a wooden board. I asked him: 'What's this, sampling the products?' He muttered 'no' but his mouth was still full."

Mr Guiver told the hearing at Croydon, south London, that there were clear procedures for sampling products and that Mr Freake had not followed any of them.

Mr Freake's deputy, Lawrence Ault, was given a final written warning for also eating some of the fruit.

Mr Guiver said: "After the decision to dismiss Mr Freake, I discovered Mr Ault had been consuming the product, and Robbie Smith, a trainee, had also been offered the product."

This made the situation worse. Mr Ault was issued with a final written warning for being offered the fruit. At the final disciplinary meeting I said I favoured a final written warning for Mr Freake, who was a manager with good prospects, but unapproved consumption of goods is an instant dismissal."

James Warren, tribunal chairman, said: "It is important that this was a damaged fruit. It would never have found its way to the customer. The company has not lost anything. This case is about someone with an impeccable record over a number of years with a good future in front of him. It seems to me the investigation was concluded with undue haste."

Mr Freake, of Norwood, southeast London, who now works for a mobile telephone company, was found to have been unfairly dismissed last November. Costs and awards to Mr Freake will be decided today.

## Horror fans and Masons put on list of sinners

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

FREEMASONRY and watching horror films are among "sins" that recruits to the Church of England will be encouraged to avoid. A new course to welcome people into the Christian faith urges Church leaders to discuss aspects of newcomers' lives that are "unhealthy or wrong".

Under the heading "I repent of my sins", the evangelism course, published yesterday, lists occult practices, seances, Freemasonry and cults as activities to be carefully considered. It also mentions unethical investments, fiddling tax returns, pornography, horror films and dishonesty at work.

The course, which is entitled *Emmaus: The Way of Faith*, tells Church leaders that "the emphasis should be on why these things are unhealthy or wrong, rather than reading out a list of prohibited practices". The list resembles the modern sins recently laid out by the Roman Catholic Church in its new catechism but the Church of England list is shorter.

The General Synod last debated Freemasonry in 1987, concluding that there were "clear difficulties" to be faced by Christians who are freemasons. However, many of the problems raised in the debate have since been addressed by the leaders of Freemasonry.

The Rev Stephen Cottrell, one of five authors of the course, which originated in the Wakefield diocese, emphasised that the course did not set out to prescribe a list of do's and don'ts for new Christians. But he conceded that if he were leading a group and a member confessed to being a

Mason, he would urge them to think carefully about it.

The course has been launched as a national initiative by the Church after it was pioneered at a Halifax church in 1993. St George's, Ovenden, one of the poorest areas of the town, saw a phenomenal growth in membership to several hundred after it was introduced. Mr Cottrell's church, St Thomas's in Huddersfield, has also started using the course. Numbers have doubled from about 55 to more than 100 in four years.

The course bears similarities to another evangelism course, Alpha, which has been phenomenally successful on the evangelical wing of the Church. Begun by clergy at Holy Trinity Brompton in London, Alpha is used by hundreds of churches. But it does not appeal to all because of its strong evangelical tone. Emmaus is likely to appeal to a broader cross-section.

The Right Rev Nigel McCulloch, Bishop of Wakefield, said: "For too long in the Decade of Evangelism we have talked about the importance of sharing our faith without providing practical help for churches to actually do it." He said the course was aimed at all denominations and traditions.

Church of England leaders are concerned that increasing numbers of people growing up in Britain know little or nothing about Christianity. Mr Cottrell said: "We have tried to make the assumption that they probably won't know very much at all. We are now experiencing the second or third generation of people who are growing up without contact with the Church."



Peter Thompson sold 14 steers and heifers worth a total of £11,000. He was arrested after a college farm manager became suspicious

## Head sold college cattle to pay his debts

BY PETER FOSTER

THE principal of an agricultural college sold some of its cattle to settle his credit card bills, a court was told yesterday.

Peter Thompson, 55, head of Kirkley Hall Agricultural College in Northumberland, sold prized Aberdeen Angus beef cattle and used the proceeds to settle bills of up to £4,000. He was jailed for six months by Newcastle Crown Court after admitting theft and false accounting.

He sold 14 steers and heifers worth a total of £11,000 between 1989 and August last year. He was arrested after a manager at one of the college's three farms became suspicious. Thompson

was suspended and later resigned from his post.

Tim Hewitt, for the defence, said that Thompson had become so engrossed in his work for the college that his personal finances had fallen into neglect. He said that Thompson, known locally for his work as a rugby union referee, had come under great strain as Kirkley Hall left local education authority control and began to raise its international profile.

Mr Hewitt said: "The seeds of his predicament arose out of the commitment and energy which he put into his job. His life was immersed in the college. This caused him great overwork and stress and it is not without significance that these thefts coincided

with the greatest period of development within the college.

"He was naive in forgetting to pay personal credit card bills in time. He was running up credit card bills, not of a large expense. The most he owed was £3,000 to £4,000, which he had the capabilities to meet. But he saw, through the sales of these cattle, a solution to deal with these bills, which he thought were getting out of control."

Passing sentence, the Recorder told Thompson, who has been living with friends in Alnwick since the break-up of his marriage: "This is a very unhappy case indeed. These offences constituted a substantial breach of trust. I also have to bear in mind that this was not an isolated offence, but

occurred over a period of time. There were eight occasions in all when you chose to behave in that way. I accept you have done a great deal of work with the college. I derive no pleasure in imposing an immediate custodial sentence."

Kirkley Hall, which has 200 full-time students and thousands more part-time, has a respected international reputation. It runs courses in agricultural, horticultural and environmental subjects.

Joanna Martin, the new principal, said: "We are very pleased that this whole sorry episode has been concluded. A new management is now in place and we are looking forward to a bright and exciting future."

## Garden 'faced wrong way'

BY RACHEL KELLY  
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

A COUPLE have taken an estate agency to court after discovering that the house they bought was facing the wrong way.

Tony Penworth and Susan Booth bought the property in Hedge End, Southampton, believing that it had a sunny back garden facing southwest, which would be ideal for evening barbecues. In fact the plot faces northwest and a neighbouring home blocks the sun late in the day.

Southampton magistrates

were told yesterday that the couple, both keen gardeners, were shocked to discover the true aspect of 42 Malvern Gardens soon after moving in. They had paid £88,000 for the semi-detached house.

The couple sought compensation from the estate agents, Mann and Co South East, and, when that failed, called in Hampshire trading standards officers, who prosecuted the firm under the Property Misdescriptions Act.

The firm, from Southampton, denies making a false statement, as does Jason Franklin, the branch manager.

## For sale: the country house with an en-suite 'hermit'

BY ALAN HAMILTON

IT MAY be the ultimate challenge to an estate agent's descriptive powers: how do you improve the image of a house when the fixtures include a man living in the garage extension? The answer was imaginative describe as a hermit.

However, the "hermit" with legal occupancy at Portkellis, near Helston, Cornwall, was not amused. Geoffrey Greenald, 83, used to be an estate agent and has countered by giving viewers to the property his own frank assessment of its flaws.

Mr Greenald was not impressed by the main house, known as The Parfitts, which is for sale at £50,000. He says it is worth no more than £30,000, adding: "Personally, I wouldn't touch it with a bargepole."

"It's been empty for 18 months, vandals have broken

in, the rooms are badly laid out, the place is a nightmare to heat and the garden is overgrown. One couple who were looking it over called to see me. I told them what I will tell anybody else: the place needs a fortune spent on it."

One neighbour described him as a nice, harmless man who deserved better; another said the agents' description was demeaning.

Michael Logan Wood, the auctioneer who will sell the house on October 1, was brimming with apology yesterday: "We understood that the occupant was a long-haired person who had opted out of life. All the paperwork describes him as a hermit, and we have not been able to get to see him ourselves. I will certainly apologise publicly; it was never our intention to cause the gentleman distress."



The main house and, right, Mr Greenald's home in the converted garage

□ Natalie Kelley, the two-year-old who died of a rare heart defect (report, September 5) was placed on a waiting list for surgery at 11 months, not at birth. Her operation was not postponed, but the list was long because of what Killingbeck Hospital, Leeds,

### CORRECTIONS

describes as "the imbalance between workload and resources at that time, a problem which is being addressed actively".

□ The budget for the first

new *Star Wars* films (report, September 10) is £38.5 million and the PepsiCo involvement is promotional, not financial. Although George Lucas directed the original *Star Wars* he is the story author and executive producer of the other two films, not the director.

## £365 MAY NOT SOUND MUCH OF A SAVING BUT IT DIDN'T COST US A PENNY

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Hospitals accused of exaggerating expertise to win patients

## Women 'misled' on cancer care

By JEREMY LAURANCE  
HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN referred for specialist breast cancer treatment are being misled about the experience of the surgeons who treat them, a report disclosed yesterday.

One in five hospitals claiming to provide specialist treatment for breast cancer, and one in four surgeons who do the work, do not see enough cases to gain the necessary expertise. Some doctors believe hospitals are under pressure to exaggerate their services because of the pressures of the internal market.

A directory listing the 220

British hospitals which provide specialist treatment for breast cancer, published yesterday by the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, shows that 40 hospitals — 19 per cent — see fewer than 100 new cases a year, regarded as the minimum necessary for a breast cancer unit to develop specialist expertise. Figures also show that, of the 194 lead surgeons operating in the units, 46 devote fewer than three half-days a week to breast cancer work — the minimum judged necessary to maintain their skills.

Richard Sainsbury, consultant surgeon at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary and a mem-

ber of the directory steering group, said that many of the smaller units would have to merge to survive. Hospitals knew they could not succeed in the internal market if they lost their cancer services, leading some to make inflated claims.

He said: "An appreciable number of women are not getting the benefit of treatment by a specialist team. The real problem is that there is no formally agreed definition of what constitutes a specialist breast surgeon."

Breast cancer claims 13,000 lives a year in Britain but treatment in a specialist breast unit can significantly improve a woman's chances of surviv-

al. In July the Government issued guidance for health authorities on what breast units should provide after publication of a national cancer policy aimed at ending the "cancer lottery" and giving every patient access to the highest standards of care.

The directory, which is intended to help GPs to locate the best local breast cancer service, shows that 17 per cent of hospitals do not follow the recommendations on diagnosis of breast cancer and make patients wait at least a week for the results.

Mr Sainsbury said that training for general surgeons who wished to specialise in

breast cancer had now been agreed by the Royal College of Surgeons and the first course would start next February. "It will be a lean time for the next three years until these people come on stream."

Many hospitals were un-

able to provide basic information on the number of new

breast cancer patients treated

and 30 per cent of the figures

in the directory are estimated.

Dr Miriam Stoppard, speaking at the launch of the directory, together with a guide on the management of breast cancer for GPs, said: "Every breast cancer patient has the right to the best treatment on offer."



James fought the system to change her consultant

## Mother had to fight for the best treatment

By JEREMY LAURANCE

LINDA JAMES received the specialist treatment she required for her breast cancer only after demanding that she be referred from her local hospital in North Yorkshire.

Doctors had removed one lump from her breast but failed to notice a second. When analysis showed that the first lump was cancerous, she was told that the surgeon was going on holiday

and that she would have to wait for a second operation. "I went out into the corridor and cried," she said.

Ten days after the second operation, she found a large growth in her lymph nodes. As a result of chasing a friend, she got herself referred to an oncologist at another hospital, who gave her chemotherapy and recommended a mastectomy. She chose to travel 50 miles to have the operation performed by a specialist, rather than

rely on her local hospital. Mrs James, 42, who has three children and runs a fruit company with her husband, said: "I had to fight the system to change my consultant. I did not want to be treated by a general surgeon, to wait three weeks for an appointment, to be processed in an impersonal production line and then be left to wait in a corridor with devastating news."

"It simply wasn't good enough. For all the talk of statistics, it is a straight

case of either you live or die. You don't get a second shot. If you get off to a bad start, that damages your chances."

Mrs James, who was diagnosed in 1991, has since had a second mastectomy after her sister died of the disease last year. "I often felt I had better treatment than my sister because I fought for it. It is the initial referral that is crucial. Patients may have to be prepared to travel to get the best treatment. It could save their lives."

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Royal Mail regrets to inform you that the CWU is intending to take further strike action and is refusing to allow its members to vote on a deal reached after more than 100 hours of talks at ACAS. The deal includes a new pay and benefits package, a shorter working week and job security.

The union has called for stoppages that may result in letter deliveries and collections being affected on Saturday September 21st and Monday September 23rd. In each case the strikes, lasting 24 hours, are due to begin the night before.

- Royal Mail will do everything possible to keep the mail moving, although delivery and collection of letters will vary depending on local circumstances.
- Business customers should ring their normal Royal Mail contact for details.
- Deliveries and collections will resume on Tuesday September 24th.

ParcelForce services are unaffected.  
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We will be doing all we can to keep disruption to a minimum, using available resources for both collections from business customers and to ensure pillar boxes are emptied. We apologise for the inconvenience the strikes will cause and will ensure your services return to normal as soon as possible.



## Surgery video banned

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE release of a video film of NHS operations was banned by a High Court judge yesterday until every patient, surgeon and health trust involved agreed to its sale.

IMC Videos, which made *Everyday Operations*, said that it would seek permission from the 27 patients, the doctors and trusts. But the Department of Health said that even if none objected the court's approval would still be needed.

Officials believe it unlikely that everyone will agree to the sale of the film, which includes footage of penile and breast implants. However, it could still be sold overseas and re-edited for the British market using only film of those who give their permission.

Gerald Malone, the Health Minister, fought to prevent its release, flying from Scotland to London on a Sunday afternoon in August to ensure that an injunction was obtained hours before it was due on sale.

## Tell-tale signs of a headache's sinister cause



A DOCTOR was ordered to be struck off the medical register for serious professional misconduct last week after he diagnosed peanut allergy as the cause of a five-year-old girl's headache. Eliza Connally had a brain tumour.

On short acquaintance, Dr Robert Blomfield, who has been given 28 days to appeal, seems to be a man dedicated to his patients and utterly selfless. But careful examination and accuracy of diagnosis, to be confirmed later by special tests, is all-important. To deprive a patient of the advantages of modern treatment which can stem from an early diagnosis is rightly considered to be serious professional misconduct.

Dr Blomfield's enthusiasm for non-traditional medicine seems to have blinded him to a wealth of disturbing symptoms and to have prevented him from carrying out a standard examination. Patients always worry about headaches and so do their doctors, but there are differences between those which, for example, stem from tension, fevers, arthritic conditions to the neck, toothache and sinusitis and the type of headache which left Eliza blind, partially paralysed and hard of hearing.

Medical students are taught from their earliest days on the wards to remember that when a patient complains of a headache, there is always the possibility of a tumor and that, in older

patients, the tumour has often spread from a cancer elsewhere in the body.

The headaches caused by brain tumours are often worse in the mornings and improve once the patient is up. Such a headache tends to recur every morning and, as the tumour grows, the time in the day that the headache fades becomes progressively later until finally it is always present.

The headache from a tumour is worse when the patient stoops and may be associated with nausea, vomiting, dizziness and changes in vision. There are often subtle alterations in personality as well as obvious irritability, as in Eliza's case, and in 20 per cent of cases patients with cerebral tumours have epileptic fits.

As the tumour grows, it presses on nerve tracks with subsequent loss of muscle power and weakness in the limbs. Eliza's was so large that, when she was seen by Dr Blomfield, it had obstructed the free flow of the cerebral spinal fluid and was giving rise to hydrocephalus. Little wonder that she had an agonising headache, uncoordinated gait, vomiting and was irritable and unusually sensitive to noise and light — a very different picture from the headache suffered by the stressed, overtired, hungover or feverish.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

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**140,000  
young are  
homeless**

By IAN MURRAY

ONE in ten people aged between 16 and 25 is homeless or in housing need, according to an independent report issued yesterday.

More than 140,000 were homeless last year, and a further 175,000 were living in hostels or with friends and relatives who wanted them to move out. The report was compiled by the YMCA and Staffordshire University, helped by 350 housing-related agencies.

The ten main charities involved, including The Children's Society and Barnardo's, say that the findings "reveal a stark picture of modern Britain with a huge, unrecognised underclass of young homeless people trapped in poverty and denied access to social housing". They claim that £2,400 per taxpayer could be saved over two years if housing benefit were available for those on the streets, while the human cost to the individual and the social cost are incalculable.

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR leaders plan to protect thousands of homeowners from repossession by creating a mortgage insurance scheme financed by both the state and private sector.

A partnership between a Labour government and mortgage lenders is being considered to increase the take-up of private insurance schemes. Labour believes a joint venture would reduce premiums while tightening rules to prevent insurers from avoiding payouts when mortgage holders lose their jobs.

Insurers would have to offer cheaper mortgage protection policies but would cover mortgage payments only for a limited period, not indefinitely as usually at present.

In return, a Labour government would take on the long-term risk by providing cover for homeowners out of work for more than a year.

The move to offer extra help to homeowners comes as Tony Blair prepares to lead a winter campaign on housing by giving warning of the dangers of rising property prices and the risk of more repossession. He

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### Prices continue to rise

THE autumn housing market is expected to be the strongest for eight years, according to the latest quarterly survey by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (Rachel Kelly writes).

An "unusually vigorous" summer for the property market continued throughout August, a traditionally slow month, the report said. London, the South East, the South West and East Anglia saw the highest number of chartered

surveys reporting price increases. In London, 84 per cent said prices were rising.

Ian Perry, the institution's housing market spokesman, said: "The market has been improving for 12 consecutive months. It is no longer a question of recovery; the improvement is definitely here to stay."

Country homes and two and three-bedroom pre-1960 houses have seen the biggest price increases.



Hoard of buried musical treasures inside the Russian State Radio Archive

## Russia releases secret music of 'decadent' greats

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

RUSSIAN recordings by some of the century's musical masters, including Dmitri Shostakovich, Herbert von Karajan and Artur Rubinstein, are being released for the first time since they were banned by the Soviet authorities as too decadent.

About 400,000 suppressed tapes survived because orders to destroy them were disobeyed. Under musical glasnost, they are now to be marketed by a British company after being remastered with the help of a Russian noise-reduction system originally developed by the Soviet Defence Ministry for cleaning KGB surveillance tapes.

As the October issue of Gramophone will report, Telstar Records has been granted exclusive rights for their worldwide release after extensive negotiations, which involved Russian musicians writing an open letter to President Yeltsin calling for his support in making them available commercially.

The music was rediscovered in 1989 among 1.2 million tapes in the Russian State Radio Archive. Staff had stored some in boxes for balalaika ensembles and folk groups, or hid them at home under floorboards.

Staff at the broadcasting station refused, for example, to erase tapes of the cellist Mstislav Rostropovich after he left the Soviet Union. Some were broadcast under the name of politically acceptable

musicians. Historic recordings include a 1949 concert in Moscow in which the American singer Paul Robeson sang in English, French, Spanish, Yiddish and Chinese. It had never been heard in the West.

A spokeswoman for Telstar said: "The archive is home not only to audio history but also video recordings, including thousands of hours of Rubinstein and Menuhin, besides other notable artists."

They estimate the value of these recordings to be £7 billion. Thirty CDs were released yesterday on a label called Revelation. Among them is Shostakovich playing his sonata for cello and piano in D Minor. Eight more will be issued each month and a rare repertoire series will be launched with six titles a month from January.

Valentin Lazoukin, chairman of the Federal Service on Television and Radio of the Russian Federation, said: "Our goal is to present an encyclopaedia of music, a complete picture of Russian culture. Under communism there was a feeling that our culture was different from the West, but in fact we were always an integral part of world culture."

"Even though he left, Rostropovich was always thought of as Russian. Shostakovich still influenced music from behind an Iron Curtain, even though some of his best performances were never allowed to be heard."



Out of the cold: Shostakovich, left, and Rostropovich

## Crash pilot had no recent flying time

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR Royal Navy pilot who had only seven hours' flying time in nine weeks crashed his Harrier into a hill during a training exercise with RAF Tornados, killing himself and a passenger, an inquest was told yesterday.

Lieutenant-Commander Mike Auckland had not had recent Harrier flying experience. Chief Petty Officer Stephen Brookes, a mechanic, also died. Each was married with a young family.

The Royal Navy Sea Harrier, a T4 training version, was taking part with an RAF Harrier in a feigned attack on three Tornados. The coroner said that neither pilot had had recent experience in Harriers. For that reason it was decided that there should not be a close contact and the Harriers disengaged after pointing towards the Tornados.

When the inquest opened in February, Michael Rose, the

West Somerset Coroner, said: "The risks servicemen undertake in peacetime are taken too much for granted." Yesterday he said: "Flying a modern service aircraft is an extremely difficult task and it is imperative that pilots have current flying experience. The recommended currency is 16 hours a month." Lieutenant-Commander Auckland had only seven hours in 68 days.

The aircraft crashed into the Blackdown Hills at Burnworthy on February 23. Lieutenant-Commander Mark Voss, commanding officer of 899 Sea Harrier training squadron at Yeovilton, said it was fitted with radar, but a device giving audio and visual warning of low flying was not working and would not have given an accurate reading when banking.

The inquest was adjourned until today.

# Labour to offer state cash for mortgage insurance

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# History repeats itself as Bosnia voters lay the ground for war

SIX years ago, the elections complete, the three sectarian-oriented nationalist parties triumphed. Bosnia's parliament sat in uneasy coalition, headed by a collective presidency including Serb, Muslim, and Croat representatives.

Irreconcilable rifts remained, though, for the Serbs wanted to remain part of Yugoslavia, the Croats wanted to leave the federation as it was then, and the Muslims clung to Bosnian sovereignty. The Government broke down within a year and Bosnia was at war within 18 months.

Little appears to have changed. The above scenario was the reality after Bosnia's first free elections, in November 1990, when three parties, respectively the Serb Demo-

cratic Party (SDS), the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) and the Muslims' Party for Democratic Action (SDA) won seats in a parliament that represented the approximate sectarian ratios of the state. The SDA took 43 per cent of the seats, the SDS 35 per cent and the HDZ 21 per cent.

As votes from Bosnia's most recent election begin to be counted, too many parallels to 1990 remain for there to be much optimism. The main parties contesting the vote now are those that did so then. Their leadership and aspirations are almost identical.

The Serbs, if anything, have become more radicalised by their battlefield defeats last year. What-ever lip-service the SDS pays to the

**Anthony Loyd** reports from Tuzla on the latest elections that have solved little in Bosnia except confirming the likelihood of renewed fighting

Bosnian accords, its leaders and supporters remain committed to unifying the "Serb Republic" entity within Bosnia and Herzegovina with Serbia proper.

"There are many Serbs like me who had little time for the SDS before the war and were happy to live with the Muslims," said a young Bosnian Serb soldier voting for the SDS in Doboj on Saturday. "But the war came regardless of

our wishes and we have lost a lot fighting the Muslim soldiers. I gave my youth to the war. Why should we live with them again now? It was what we fought against."

Croats voting in Vitez on Saturday waved placards of their former HDZ leader, Dario Cordic, indicted on charges of war crimes against the Muslims in central Bosnia and still at liberty in

Croatia, carrying the words "We shall not give him up". The HDZ, though part of the Muslim-Croat Federation, is as hardcore as the SDS in its nationalist aspirations, and the federation's unity is at best tenuous; most Croats in Bosnia still want unity with Croatia.

"I am leaving Bosnia after two and a half years of effort to implement the federation," a senior UN official said, two weeks ago, "and I have never felt so depressed as to the chances of its working as I do now."

The Muslims, comprising more than 44 per cent of Bosnia's 4.35 million population, were their obstacle then and are their obstacle now. The Muslims continue to believe in themselves as the right-

ful heirs to a unified sovereign state undivided by the land-hungry neighbours on their flanks. One adviser of the body which planned last weekend's polls, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, said: "No way should these elections have happened now. Every side is already being rearmed and retrained with sophisticated weaponry. The last war was bad enough with Second World War armaments. Watch this space two years from now and it will be back to trenches, uniforms and the sound of gunfire."

□ Sarajevo. Although organisers of the Bosnian elections have declared the polling a success, international monitors said yesterday that they observed widespread voting irregularities, but results would be probably certified as there had been no blatant acts of interference (Stacy Sullivan writes). Among the problems were many refugees being bussed in from Serbia to cast ballots in places where they had no intention of living and many people being rendered ineligible to vote because their names were not on rosters.

On election day, 137,000 refugees living in Serbia crossed into the Serb Republic to vote. Although casting a ballot in a Bosnian town was supposed to indicate a will to live there, many Serbs said they had no intention of living in those towns and said they were forced to vote there.

## Bus hijack raises new obstacle to Chechen ceasefire

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

SUSPECTED Chechen gunmen yesterday seized a passenger bus in the southern republic of Dagestan, triggering a hostage crisis which threatened to derail the shaky peace deal between the Kremlin and Chechen rebels.

According to reports reaching Moscow, the two hijackers commanded the driver to take them to the airport at Makhachkala, Dagestan's capital. They exchanged 36 unharmed hostages for a local deputy, Gadzh Makhachev, and demanded \$100,000 (£66,000) in cash.

The incident threatened to overshadow the latest peace mission by General Aleksandr Lebed, Russia's security chief, who will travel today to the region in an effort to salvage his stalled peace deal.

Less than three weeks after he announced that the 21-month war was over and signed a peace agreement with Colonel Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen rebel commander, General Lebed's initiative

has ground to a halt and both sides are openly threatening to resume hostilities.

The latest warning came from Colonel Maskhadov, considered the most moderate figure in the Chechen separatist hierarchy, who accused political intriguers in Moscow of attempting to reignite the conflict. "It is very fragile," said the former Soviet army officer in a television interview. "I am doing the best I can. But if the agreement is violated, then what can we do? We will fight."

His remarks followed the decision on Thursday by General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, the commander of Russian forces in Chechnya, to suspend the troop withdrawal, a key provision of the peace agreement. He insisted that he would not pull out any more soldiers until a disagreement over prisoner exchanges was resolved. The Russians maintain that a number of people said by the Chechen side to be prisoners of war are in fact common criminals.

Reports about the spread of Muslim fundamentalist practices has played into the hands of General Lebed's political opponents, who have made no secret of their desire to torpedo his peace initiative and with it his credibility.

Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader, predicted that the peace deal was the "beginning of Russia's



A Russian officer and a Chechen fighter attaching explosives to a tree pierced by a mortar in a joint exercise to clear dangerous devices

territorial disintegration", because of the provision which defers the issue of Chechnya's final status for at least another five years.

Part of the reason for the strength of opposition is Gen-

eral Lebed's popularity. A new opinion poll by the Mnenie agency showed this week that the Afghan War veteran had a 75 per cent approval rating for his peace efforts, compared with only 15 per cent approval

for President Yeltsin, who started the war in December 1991. Ultimately much will depend on Mr Yeltsin's position. He has so far offered muted support for General Lebed, although he denounced

provisions for the rapid withdrawal of Russian troops from the area. It is still not clear how involved Mr Yeltsin will be in day-to-day affairs of state. Over the weekend he was admitted to Moscow's

Central Clinic Hospital for tests ahead of his multiple heart-bypass operation. Specialists said that a final decision about the open heart surgery will be made at the end of this month.

## Estonia makes the grade

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL  
IN MOSCOW

THE Baltic republic of Estonia quietly overtook higher-profile rivals such as the Czech Republic and Poland yesterday and became the first country in the region with an economy strong enough to "graduate" from United States assistance programmes.

In a ceremony in Tallinn, the capital, USAid, the American government technical and humanitarian aid organisation, formally closed its operations after five years and \$30 million (£19 million) of projects, making Estonia the first country in Central or Eastern Europe to be given that accolade.

In the five years since independence, Estonia, a country of 1.5 million people and the smallest former Soviet republic, has become, in economic terms, the mouse that roared.

It has totally switched its trade, 90 per cent of which used to be with Russia to the West, especially the Scandinavian countries and Germany. Inflation last year was 28 per cent, down from 100 per cent a month five years ago.

## Monaco Princess bows to calls for divorce

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS



Stephanie obeying father

rocks. Aware that the Princess's marital problems threaten to damage the entire Grimaldi family, which has ruled Monaco for the past 700 years, Prince Rainier "strongly advised" a divorce, according to royal sources.

There have even been reports in serious French newspapers and magazines that the Prince might be behind the affair in an attempt to drive M. Ducruet out of the country. The press said M. Ducruet had been set up, since he was photographed as soon as he arrived at Miss Houteman's side at a villa on the French Riviera. Returning from Mo-

## Illness of Pope fuels scepticism

FROM RICHARD OWEN  
IN ROME

rocco, he met his wife and there were suggestions that the couple, who have two young children, made a final attempt to save their marriage. Sources close to Princess Stephanie said she wanted to see if a reconciliation was possible. Faced with the hostility of her father, she last night accepted the inevitability of a divorce.

The affair comes at a bad time for Monaco, which has been affected by financial difficulties and scandals. The world-famous casino has reported a fall in takings and there have been rumours of Mafia infiltration into an economy that experienced golden years during the 1980s.

The Grimaldi family's prestige remains one of the principally strongest assets, making the Ducruet affair all the more harmful. Having known a height of popularity during Prince Rainier's marriage to Grace Kelly, the family has suffered problems similar to those of the British Royal Family.

Last week Princess Caroline was forced to deny speculation that she had fallen seriously ill after the publication of photographs showing her to be bald. Meanwhile, Prince Albert remains, in the words of a French magazine, "desperately unmarried".

## Hungary-Romania treaty boosts hopes of joining EU and Nato

FROM SEAN HILLEN IN TIMISOARA, ROMANIA

AS PROTESTERS waved banners in the streets, the Prime Ministers of Romania and Hungary signed an historic treaty in Timisoara yesterday, in which they agreed to respect each other's borders and protect the rights of the Hungarian minority in Transylvania.

The accord is seen by the two leaders, Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania and Gyula Horn

of Hungary, as a key step to European Union and Nato membership. The northern region of Romania, where six million ethnic Hungarians live, has been the focus of tensions for some years. Riots several years ago left three people dead and scores injured. The treaty comes after EU and Council of Europe recommendations that the Hungarian minority be

allowed their own local administration and education in their language. Territorial autonomy on ethnic lines is ruled out.

The treaty has drawn criticism from some Romanians and Hungarians. Gheorghe Funar, head of the Romanian National Unity Party, said it was "a sell-out encouraging Hungarian independence movements in Transylvania".



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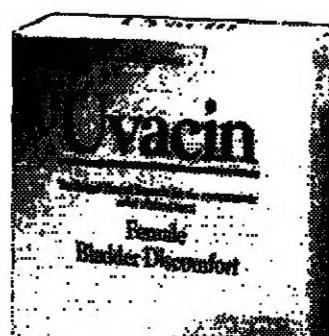
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Nicky wouldn't miss riding for the world. But recently her fun was spoiled by a slight bladder problem.

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Atlantis lifts off on its way to pick up Shannon Lucid, America's record-breaking woman astronaut, from Russia's Mir space station

Kuwait's delay in allowing build-up of US troops adds to Washington discomfort

## Outmanoeuvred Clinton softens anti-Iraq line

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON, apparently outmanoeuvred by President Saddam Hussein, embarrassed by his allies and facing Republican attacks for a weak military strategy, backed away from previous bellicose pronouncements yesterday and said that America had sought no confrontation with Iraq.

As an aircraft carrier battle group arrived in the Red Sea to support other vessels, and squadrons of fighters and Stealth bombers sat ready on the tarmac at al-Jaber base in Kuwait, Mr Clinton declined to say whether the United States could avoid any further airstrikes. The President said: "We have sought no confrontation with Saddam Hussein. My concern is that we limit Saddam Hussein's ability to threaten his neighbours, that

we do it with the no-fly zones and that we keep our pilots safe."

His comments came after an embarrassing delay for Washington after which the Kuwaiti Government finally agreed yesterday to allow thousands of additional American troops to be stationed on its territory.

On Friday, it had been announced that 5,000 troops would be sent from Fort Hood, Texas. Two days later the Pentagon said the figure should have been 3,000, but William Perry, the Defence Secretary, during a diplomatic visit to the Gulf, had been told that permission for the deployment to Kuwait would require the authority of the emirate's national defence committee.

The Kuwaiti Government, emphasising repeatedly that there had been no hesitation in approval, finally agreed yesterday to the deployment.

"There was unanimous approval of all of the arrangements proposed by the United States to Kuwait that would preserve security and stability," Sheikh Saad Nasser al-Sabah, the Information Minister, said. "We would go to any extent to guarantee the security of Kuwait and to prevent the repetition of the 1990 Iraqi invasion."

Mr Perry, expected in London last night after his tour of the Gulf states and Turkey, appeared to have found little support in the Middle East for further airstrikes against Saddam. He had left Turkey without making any comment.

Saudi Arabia, America's most powerful Gulf ally, was said to have made clear that it did not back more attacks against Iraq or approve the further build-up of US military in the region.

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## Shuttle to bring home queen of the orbits

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE American space shuttle *Atlantis* blasted off yesterday to bring home the record-breaking woman astronaut Shannon Lucid, who has spent the last six months cooped up on Russia's Mir space station.

Mrs Lucid, who was to have returned to Earth almost two months ago, was excited about coming back to "cycling, feeling the wind in your face and the sun on your back".

The 53-year-old mother of three adult children also looked forward to falling into the arms of her husband, Michael, with whom she has communicated via computer e-mail, plus occasional telephone and video transmissions. By the time she returns on September 26, she will have set an endurance record for a woman of 183 days in orbit — her only company being two Russian cosmonauts.

Glazkov, deputy commander of the Russian cosmonaut training academy. Before Mrs Lucid arrived on Mir, General Glazkov commented that he knew women loved to clean, implying that she might usefully pack a duster for her space adventure. Any awkwardness soon passed. "Everybody loves her," said the general.

Mrs Lucid's return to Earth was delayed, first, by technical problems in early August and later by two hurricanes which threatened to blow the space shuttle off its launch pad.

Mrs Lucid, speaking to a television reporter via a satellite link, said she was "packed and ready" and fantasised about visiting bookshops and roller-skating with her daughters. "I miss my family most of all," she said with her customary grin.

Lucid: wants to feel the wind in her hair again

nauts, who helped her to adjust to life in space by offering her the occasional tot of vodka (an unknown luxury for American astronauts, who are not supplied with alcohol).

"She is an outstanding person," said General Uri

Shayko, the Russian commander of the Mir space station.



## Kurd aid workers fly to Guam

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN ZAKHO, IRAQ

A FIRST group of 600 Kurds who fear reprisals for their work with American aid groups in northern Iraq yesterday left Turkey for the Pacific island of Guam in the Anatolia news agency reported. The agency added that another 1,475 Kurds had crossed into Turkey for possible later airlifting to Guam from the city of Diyarbakir.

Francis Ricciardone, the US Embassy's chief of mission in Turkey, told reporters in Diyarbakir that the Kurds would be on Guam for from two to three months before being taken to America, where many of them want sanctuary.

Guam, a US possession in the western Pacific, has remote military complexes where Kurds who opposed President Saddam Hussein of Iraq while working for US agencies can be safely debriefed. They fled northern Iraq after the Kurdistan Democratic Party made an alliance with Saddam and took control of the area after routing the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.

The refugees crossed into Turkey on Sunday, but plans for them to fly out that night were disrupted because of a technical fault in the aircraft they were to use.

AMERICA'S military buildup to deter President Saddam Hussein from further aggression is turning into a multi-billion-dollar operation.

The bill for the fuel alone, needed to deploy the eight F/A-18 Hornets to Kuwait and to send B-52s to the region, has already increased the overall cost by more than a billion dollars.

The non-stop 20-hour journey of eight Stealth fighters from Holloman air force base in New Mexico to Kuwait involved a dozen air refuelling tankers, a mixture of KC-135s from McConnell air force base in Kansas and KC-10s from McGuire air force base in New Jersey, according to a spokesman for the United States Air Mobility Command in Illinois.

Paul Beaver, a defence expert with the Jane's group, said the average cost of a combat aircraft in flight was about \$15,000 (£10,000) an hour, excluding the pilot's salary. It costs \$10 million (£6.5 million) to train a Stealth fighter pilot.

The two deployments of B-52s would have cost even more. The spokesman for the Air Mobility Command which operates all the tankers for mid-air refuelling, said the two B-52s which flew non-stop from Guam in the Pacific to mount a cruise missile attack on Iraqi air defence systems before flying straight back to Guam, used up 1.5 million pounds of fuel. Far more tankers were needed for the B-52 operation than for the trip by the Stealth fighters, the spokesman said.

The two B-52s also fired 13 AGM-86C cruise missiles, each costing \$1.2 million, according to the Pentagon.

Bob Dole, the US Repub-

US Central Command region that covers southwest Asia. Before the current operation, funds requested for 1996 totalled more than \$490 million.

Now the Pentagon is to add to the overall bill by sending about 3,000 additional troops to Kuwait to take part in an exercise codenamed Intrinsic Action. A spokesman for the Pentagon was unable to give the cost of the deployment.

The arrival of a second carrier battle group in the Gulf from the Adriatic will also double the daily cost of the naval operation. However, the Tarawa Amphibious Readiness Group, which has been in the Gulf in the last few weeks, has now moved away to the South Pacific.

The campaign against Saddam does not only involve the Pentagon. The CIA, under director John Deutch, has also been engaged in building up an organisation in northern Iraq in the last five years to engineer the downfall of the Iraqi dictator. The estimated cost of the CIA operation since the Gulf War ended in 1991 is about \$100 million.

With the CIA's abrupt departure from the region last week, following the advance of Iraqi forces into Arbil, headquarters of the CIA-run organisation, the huge sums of money appear to have had meagre returns.

Two years ago the CIA installed a team of intelligence officers in four rented houses overlooking Arbil and filled it with communications systems and other equipment, to provide back-up for the Iraqi National Congress, then the main anti-Saddam group.

The congress spread anti-Saddam propaganda, using leaflets, books and radio and television broadcasts. However, it has not been involved in any significant military operations against Saddam.



Deutch: CIA bill for Iraq is \$100 million

## Israel border alert as Syria moves troops from Beirut

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER AT TZIPOREN OUTPOST, ISRAELI-LEBANON BORDER

ANXIETY and tension were mounting yesterday along the troubled Israeli-Lebanon border as Israeli military commanders tried to interpret large-scale movements of Syrian troops based in Lebanon.

Ehud Barak, the former chief of staff and former Labour Foreign Minister, told Israel radio he "did not understand" the movements, which have involved about 12,000 men of the 40,000-strong force. He warned Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, to be cautious in his reaction.

According to Lebanese security sources, the thousands of Syrian soldiers have begun redeploying out of Beirut towards the Syrian border, due to a perceived threat of a sudden Israeli attack. Most of the heavily armed troops who have moved eastwards have taken up positions in the mountain ranges along the Syrian border where Syrian Sam-7 anti-aircraft missiles and anti-aircraft gun batteries are installed.

The tension has been exacerbated by Syria's blank refusal to restart peace talks stalled since February due to the refusal of Mr Netanyahu, subsequently elected in May, to consider handing back the whole of the Golan Heights, occupied since 1967.

There has also been a threat by Hezbollah (the Party of God) to resume full-scale suicide attacks against Israeli troops occupying a Lebanese buffer zone.

Yesterday, one official source told Western reporters being conducted on a rare tour

There is a prospect of limited conflict in the area around Mount Hermon.

of Israeli artillery and other military positions along the extensively mined border with Lebanon: "We are taking seriously enough what has happened to the Syrian troops in Lebanon and other areas. In the area under my control, we are looking and searching for the new locations."

For the second day in suc-

## Bibles take a bashing in US hotels

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

NEARLY a quarter of hotel guests in the United States use the Bible that is traditionally left in bedside-table drawers.

But not all heed the Eighth Commandment, because one in six good books goes missing during a normal year.

A survey of hotel guests found that Bible-reading, which 23 per cent of people said they did during their stays, was almost as high as the use of the hotel mini-bar (26 per cent).

A member of the Gideons organisation, which places more than a million Bibles in American hotels a year, suggested that the reason so many vanished may be because readers became engrossed in them.

Only 43 per cent of guests who answered the Fodor's Travel Publications survey said that they ate the bedsheet mint usually left on the pillow by the management. Some 31 per cent admitted taking home the hotel bathroom soap and bottled lotions, and 4 per cent said they stole towels.

One per cent admitted us-

Child star by West to appear

Sweat of million Indian par-

Killers sought

Most French support Front idea

Mayor killed

Fatal jobs race

Teresa in fall

Reward

# Child slaves 'used by West Africans to appease spirits'

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

TENS of thousands of pre-teen girls are being kept as unpaid servants and sex slaves by West African voodoo priests to pay for the sins of their families against traditional gods and spirits.

According to a report published yesterday by Australia's Anti-Slavery Society, up to 35,000 virgin girls as young as eight in Ghana, Benin, Togo and Nigeria have been given to "fetish priests" who treat them like serfs and often rape them.

"Originally offered as human sacrifice to ensure success in war, these girls are the helpless victims of a traditional form of slavery in which they are known locally as 'fetish slaves,'" the report said.

The girls are offered as slaves in order to appease the gods and to atone for wrongs committed by their relatives, usually male relatives," said the report *The Forgotten Girls of West Africa*.

Most of the girl slaves have been found in Ghana's south-western regions where the voodoo practices originating in Benin take place alongside Christianity and Islam.

Paul Bravender-Coyle, the author of the report, was invited to Ghana by a group of charities to investigate the problem last year, and to highlight the need for Western funding to provide education and training for the slaves, known as *trokosi*.

He said that many of the

*trokosi* have two or three children by their priest masters, and are denied access to education so they are unable to fend for themselves when released from their "indenture" after between three and five years.

Unlike the radical Islamic Government of Sudan, which turns a blind eye to the enslavement of Christians, the Ghanaian Government has been anxious to stamp out child slavery. The children, invariably virgins, are offered at a shrine after a run of bad luck, disease, or a series of deaths in a clan. They are expected to stay with priests from the age of about eight up to 15 and sometimes much longer.

President Rawlings recently told *The Times* that, if he wanted to get the truth out of high-ranking officials, he had found it was often useless to make them take an oath on the Bible. "But drag them to a shrine, and brother, they'll come clean," he said.

Ghana's more enlightened fetish priests have agreed to try to prevent families from handing over their daughters to atone for sins they fear they may have committed, and instead offering a goat.

Children's rights groups have offered funding for poor families to pay for goats, which are considered a better asset than a daughter, and are trying to raise money to educate the youngsters so they can earn a living if and when they are released.

■ Kampala: A five-day pan-African conference of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent national societies to discuss how best to cope with conflicts, natural disasters and the increasing number of refugees across the continent will open in the Ugandan capital next Monday.

"We have problems in Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, Liberia and Somalia and it's a million-dollar question as to what solution we shall have to employ," Peter Oryema, secretary-general of the Uganda Red Cross, said yesterday. The conference would also consider how to reduce dependence on foreign aid. (AP)

Betty Akuffo-Amoabeng, ex-

began meeting in Tokyo yesterday. Human Rights Watch urged donors to ensure that their aid did not perpetuate child bonded labour. "Twenty years after the Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act, 1976, became law in India, employers continue to purchase children as virtual slave labour in agriculture and a wide range of industries," it said.

The report was published as India's donor community

**News Update**

**Most French 'support Front ideas'**

Paris: Most French people — 51 per cent — share the extreme right-wing ideas of the National Front, according to an opinion poll published yesterday by the left-wing *Liberation* newspaper that will send shockwaves through the country's political class.

**Killers sought**

Brussels: International arrest warrants have been issued for two alleged assassins of Andre Cools, a former Belgian Socialist minister, in 1991. BRTN radio said, The Tunisian pair fled to Sicily. (Reuters)

**Mayor killed**

Ankara: Nusret Ozurt, the Muslim mayor of Pergeme, a Black Sea town, was shot dead by the owner of a pub he had closed for selling alcohol, the Anatolia news agency said. The assailant fled. (AFP)

**Fatal jobs race**

Bhubaneshwar, India: Four youths competing for jobs as police constables died in eastern India after running in a five-mile race in midday temperatures of up to 104F (40C), officials said. (Reuters)

**Teresa in fall**

Calcutta: Mother Teresa suffered a minor injury to her head in fall. Her condition was not serious, a Calcutta hospital said. She left hospital 11 days ago after treatment for heart problems. (Reuters)

## Whitewater call for prostitute's diary

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE pillow talk that cost President Clinton his chief campaign strategist echoed through the White House yesterday as a prostitute's potentially damaging diaries were subpoenaed by prosecutors investigating the First Family.

Details of a journal kept by Sherry Rowlands of her year-long affair with Dick Morris, the presidential campaign guru, have been requested as part of further inquiries into the myriad scandals surrounding Mr Clinton and his wife Hillary.

Kenneth Starr, the independent counsel on Whitewater, is said to be interested in a claim by the \$200-an-hour prostitute that she had been told Mrs Clinton was the catalyst behind the illegal gathering of FBI background files on hundreds of Republicans by White House aides.

According to Newsweek, Ms Rowlands and Mr Morris are expected to give evidence before Mr Starr, and it appears also that the strategist's records may have been subpoenaed. The demands by Mr Starr come less than a week after Mr Morris sent congressional investigators a sworn statement denying allegations by Ms Rowlands in which she claimed he had blamed the files affair on a "paranoid" Mrs Clinton. Mr Starr's move is a signal that the independent counsel is refusing to accept Mr Morris's statement and intends to resolve the emerging contradictions surrounding the affair conducted at the Jefferson Hotel in



Rowlands: her lawyer says she will co-operate

## Bid for new UN chief intensifies

FROM JAMES BONE  
IN NEW YORK

THE new session of the United Nations General Assembly starting today will be dominated by the search for a new Secretary-General who can rescue the organisation from oblivion.

Boutros Ghali is trying to cling to power with a second five-year spell despite his earlier pledge to serve only one term in office. But America has made clear that it will use its veto at the 15-nation Security Council to block Dr Boutros Ghali's re-election when his term expires at the end of the year, and the hunt is on for a successor.

The race began officially this month when Niger circulated a diplomatic note proposing its former Foreign Minister, Hamid Algabid. Although he is the Secretary-General of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, Mr Algabid is given little chance at the UN — not least because he is said to speak only faltering English.

With no clear front-runner yet emerging, UN insiders calculate that the next Secretary-General will probably either be an African — since Africa is by convention due a second term — or a woman whose gender can trump geographical considerations.

Many are waiting for President Mandela of South Africa to tip his hand. A hero at the UN for his struggle against apartheid, he has the ability to act as kingmaker in choosing an African successor to Dr Boutros Ghali.

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Ellen DeGeneres, the star of ABC television's *Ellen* sitcom, who is said to be considering whether the character she plays should "come out" as a lesbian

## Disney weighs risks of outing sitcom character as lesbian

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

DISNEY executives must decide if Middle America, used to be more conservative than the coastal conurbations, is ready for a leading television sitcom character to "come out" as a homosexual.

Ellen DeGeneres, the star of ABC television's *Ellen* show (which is shown on

Channel 4 in Britain), was said by her agent to be "trying to break new ground and do something that hasn't been done before on television" — namely, to present her popular character as homosexual.

In the programme, Ellen is a self-deprecating bookshop manager who has a succession of unfruitful romances with men.

and the programme is made by a Disney offshoot, Touchstone Productions. Disney is reluctant to be seen controlling a subsidiary but faces fallout if *Ellen* does turn gay.

In the programme, Ellen is a self-deprecating bookshop manager who has a succession of unfruitful romances with men.



De Kock: boasted he was an effective killer

## Killer accuses his apartheid security bosses

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN PRETORIA

EUGENE DE KOCK, a former police colonel convicted of multiple murder and other crimes, yesterday appealed for leniency, saying he was only following the orders of his apartheid masters when he assassinated black opponents of the Government.

It was the first time Colonel de Kock, who once described himself as apartheid's "most effective" assassin, had taken the stand in Pretoria's Supreme Court during the marathon 18-month trial of apartheid era death squads. His explosive testimony is expected to implicate several former apartheid security chiefs and politicians.

Dubbed "prime evil" by police colleagues, the 48-year-old former commander headed a notorious death squad based at Vlakplaas, near Pretoria, that hunted down black liberation fighters. He began testimony in mitigation of the life sentence he is facing after his conviction last month on 89 of 121 charges, including six murders, two of conspiracy to murder and more than 80 of fraud and gun-running.

Wearing a grey suit that reflected his grim demeanour, the colonel sat in the wooden dock, shoulders hunched, and peering towards the judge through thick-rimmed glasses and spoke softly as he told how the brutality of guerrilla warfare turned him into hardened killer.

He named several superiors who gave orders for his "dirty tricks" operations. At one stage he mentioned that P.W. Botha, the former President, knew about a raid in Lesotho, and his evidence could result in further trials.

Although the trial deals primarily with the colonel's criminal activities, he gave notice that by exposing the spectrum of their activities he intends to convince the court that he and his colleagues were driven by a mixture of right-wing doctrine and stress sustained during counter-insurgency and merely followed instructions from above.

Inside the packed courtroom white-haired men in khaki shorts huddled on benches alongside black men in sharp suits behind Sydney

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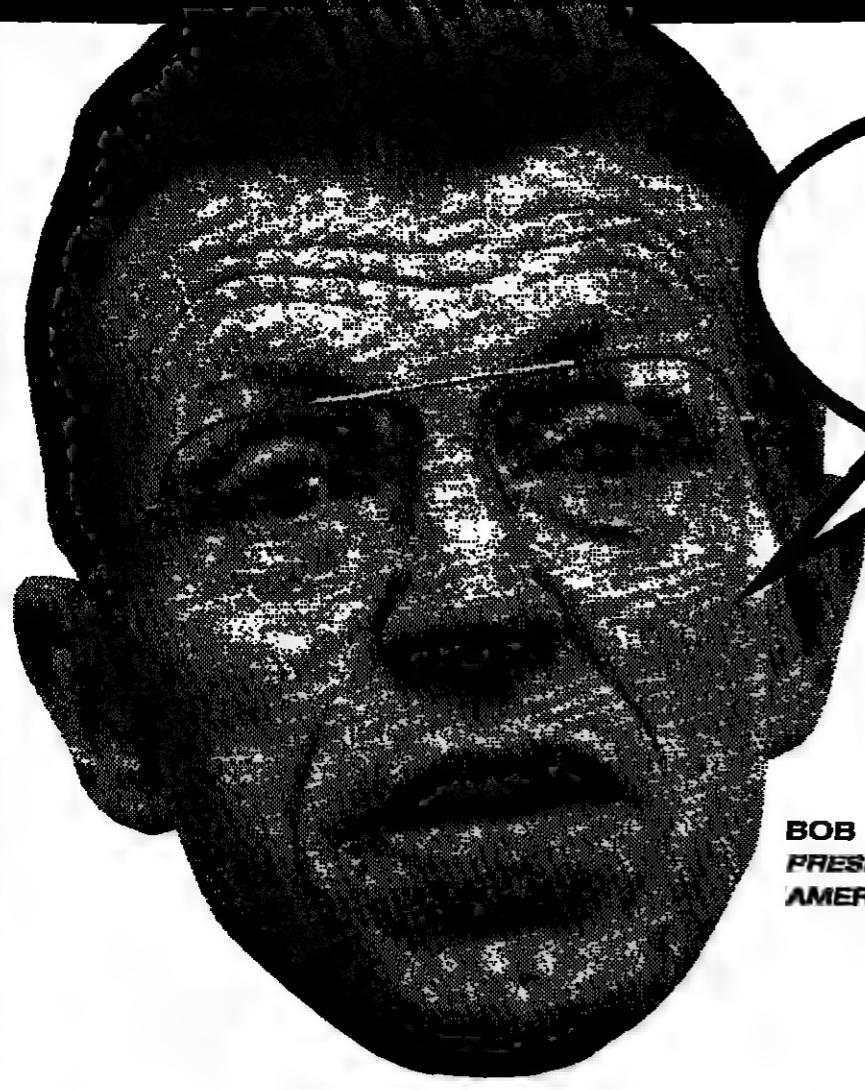
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you said  
that Bob!

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PRESIDENT OF  
AMERICAN AIRLINES

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BOB CRANDALL

"Heathrow is full."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"It is possible to get slots at Heathrow."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"As you know we are very disappointed by the US government's recent decision to approve the extension of the British Airways-USAir code sharing agreement, which gives British Airways tremendous competitive advantages versus US carriers.

The attached book [Dirty Tricks] highlights the fervent support which the British Government has long provided for British Airways, the almost complete domination of British commercial aviation by British Airways, and at several points underscores the financial importance which British Airways attaches to preventing competition at Heathrow and on its routes beyond Heathrow."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"Surely it has been American doctrine since the turn of the century that truly free markets require full and, indeed, rigorous application of the anti-trust laws."

BA LEGAL DIRECTOR   
AA LEGAL DIRECTOR

**I think the BA/AA merger should be referred to the MMC because:**

Name & Address:

Send your entries to: 'Two Bob Doubletalk', Virgin Atlantic, Griffin House, High St, Crawley, W. Sussex, RH10 1DQ.  
\*This is not a tie breaker. It is just for fun.

"I'm interested to see how the justice department deal with the application. What Lufthansa and United want to do is reduce the level of competition by relaxing the anti-trust law. The justice department is required to promote competition."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"BA has monopolised, conspired to monopolise and attempted to monopolise."

USAIR   
AMERICAN AIRLINES

"Code sharing is profoundly anti competitive..."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"If the British want a deal, it will have to be pretty much on U.S. terms."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"When Airlines team up and code share they are able by means of pretending to be a single carrier to force other non combined carriers out of a market. When this happens consumers lose all the many benefits of competition."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"Raise your goddam fares 20%. I'll raise mine the next morning."

BOB AYLING   
BOB CRANDALL

"Sue the bastards."

BOB CRANDALL  FREDDIE LAKER   
BOB AYLING  RICHARD BRANSON

BOB AYLING,  
CEO OF BRITISH AIRWAYS

NO, I think  
you said  
that Bob!

IN YOUR MARKET, YOU FLY WITH THE AIRLINE THAT LOOKS LIKE YOU.

مدون من الأصل

INSIDE  
SECTION  
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TODAY  
BUSINESS

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DALGETY: th  
that owns Spiller  
said yesterday that  
crisis had cost £100  
million.  
The company made  
losses of £100 million  
cent below last year.  
In addition, profits were  
down in the year  
compared with last  
year earlier.  
Richard Charnier  
said: "The  
been exceptionally

John She...  
8th March  
Parody  
...  
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# THE TIMES

**ARTS**  
Amanda Roocroft goes bohemian at Covent Garden  
**PAGES 33-35**

**LAW**  
The problems for partially sighted would-be lawyers  
**PAGES 37, 39**

**SPORT**  
Frustrated Surrey given runaround at Sophia Gardens  
**PAGES 43-48**

**TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES 46, 47**

**INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY**

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17 1996

RK

## Governor says City does not need euro

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

EDDIE GEORGE, Governor of the Bank of England, said yesterday that the City of London will thrive whether Britain joins a single European currency or not.

Speaking at the launch of the Bank's second quarterly report on technical preparations for a single currency, the Governor said that, as with any major change, there are risks and opportunities. But he added: "There is no doubt that provided people are prepared, as we will be, the opportunities far outweigh the risks whether Britain is in or out." He was responding to concerns expressed recently by British business that the City of London will lose its position as Europe's leading financial centre if Britain continues to opt out of the single currency. Some have speculated that thousands of jobs could be lost.

When pressed, Mr George said that it was, in reality, difficult to identify any real risks for the City. He noted that London's financial centre is larger than the other European centres put together and is renowned for its expertise and sophistication. He added: "The City is an international centre not just a European one. We provide the links between Tokyo and New York on a scale quite disproportionate to our size."

He noted that many European banks are still choosing to base large operations in London despite their assumption that Britain will continue to opt out of a single currency and that this must be proof that London will not suffer.

The main message of yesterday's new report *Practical Issues Arising from the Introduction of the Euro* was that the financial community will be ready for the introduction of the single currency in 1999. Mr George said that efforts to gear up for trading the euro had intensified since the Bank's last technical report in May, partly because there was a realisation that a core of

European countries would, in all likelihood, proceed to a single currency.

But Mr George also took the opportunity yesterday to warn against any attempt to fudge the Maastricht economic convergence criteria. He said that shepherding some countries through the single currency door even if they had not met the criteria would be unacceptable creative accounting in his view.

His comments coincided with another broadside on the single currency issue from British business. Thirteen senior British businessmen wrote to *The Daily Telegraph* urging the Prime Minister to spell out the dangers of early entry into a monetary union. This was in answer to a letter in *The Financial Times* ten days ago, signed by 15 leading companies, that warned the Government against self-imposed exclusion from the debate on monetary union.

Mr George was also speaking just before today's key Franco-German economic meeting, which will consider efforts to cut budget deficits and other issues on the road to a single currency. There has been speculation in the financial markets of a secret deal to soften the Maastricht criteria to ensure that France qualifies, and yesterday Klaus Kinkel, Germany's Foreign Minister, was moved to deny such talk. He said that there was no question of any divergence from the convergence criteria and that rumours of such considerations were totally baseless.

The Franco-German meeting comes a day before France details its 1997 Budget, the year which will determine whether it meets the Maastricht criteria. The next focus for followers of the European debate will then be Friday, when an informal meeting of European finance ministers convenes in Dublin and is expected to concentrate on EMU-related issues.

Coping with euro, page 29



Dorling Kindersley pleased the City with a 37 per cent rise in full-year profits to £17.4 million on booming sales of illustrated reference books and CD-Roms. The company now plans its biggest single book project, an encyclopaedia of garden plants, after successes with dogs and cookery. Page 26

## BUSINESS TODAY

| STOCK MARKET INDICES         | PRICE            | CHANGE    |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| FT-SE 100                    | 3977.2           | (+0.3)    |
| Yield                        | 3.51%            |           |
| FT-SE All share              | 1861.01          | (-4.25)   |
| Nikkei                       | Closed           |           |
| New York:                    | 8673.29 (+34.77) |           |
| Dow Jones                    | 884.12 (+3.58)   |           |
| S&P Composites               |                  |           |
| Federal Funds                | 5.75%            | (5.46)    |
| Long Bond                    | 97.75%           | (97.56)   |
| Yield                        | 6.86%            | (6.56%)   |
| INTERBANK                    |                  |           |
| 3-month Interbank            | IPV%             | (IPV%)    |
| Libor long gilt future (Dec) | 107.75           | (107.75%) |

| STERLING  | PRICE            | CHANGE |
|-----------|------------------|--------|
| New York: | 1.5857* (1.5855) |        |
| London:   | 1.5858 (1.5844)  |        |
| DM        | 2.3500 (2.3500)  |        |
| FF        | 5.0049 (5.0169)  |        |
| FR        | 1.9302 (1.9287)  |        |
| Yen       | 171.85 (171.65)  |        |
| Euro      | 88.1 (88.2)      |        |

| USD VS DOLLAR | PRICE            | CHANGE |
|---------------|------------------|--------|
| London:       | 1.5105* (1.5140) |        |
| DM            | 5.1310* (5.1573) |        |
| FF            | 1.2300* (1.2438) |        |
| FR            | 110.15* (110.48) |        |
| Yen           | 87.2 (87.3)      |        |

| MORNING STAR       | PRICE  | CHANGE |
|--------------------|--------|--------|
| Brent 15-day (Nov) | 821.75 | (7.6)  |

London close Yen 110.82  
\* denotes midday trading price

### Quick sale unlikely for Signet

By MARTIN BARROW

ATTEMPTS by Signet, the jewellery company formerly known as Ralmer, to sell its UK retail business appear to have stalled.

The company said that discussions have taken place with a number of interested parties and were still continuing "with one potential purchaser". However, the company was unable to present concrete proposals to shareholders yesterday, disappointing investors who had hoped a deal was imminent.

Yesterday Signet, which also owns H Samuel, said losses were reduced to £6 million before tax from £21.3 million in the six months to August 3. Sales increased to £36.9 million from £34.9 million. Net debt stood at £30.1 million after a reduction of £3.6 million year-on-year.

Independent Press Communications Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Tony O'Reilly's Independent newspaper group, offered NZ\$10.50 (£4.70) a share for Wilson & Horton, the Auckland-based newspaper and magazine company.

Wilson & Horton also holds a one-third share in the consortium that last year bought New Zealand's commercial radio stations.

The bid is the biggest made by independent.

The company's last large-scale acquisition, in May 1995, was a 22 per cent holding in Wilson & Horton. Other

### Independent bids in New Zealand

FROM EILEEN McCARE IN DUBLIN

COMPANIES linked to Doctor O'Reilly control a further 22 per cent of the New Zealand group.

Analysts said that the move to gain full control of the company was typical of Doctor O'Reilly, but that the timing of the bid had taken the market by surprise.

Michael Walls, the chairman of IPCL, said that Wilson & Horton's main attraction was its newspaper business: "The major focus, if you look at our group worldwide and at the business of Wilson & Horton, is on the printed medium. We think it's got a long way to go and is far from being a spent medium."

The offer is conditional on the approval of Independent Newspapers' shareholders, who will vote at an extraordinary meeting on October 4.

Tempus, page 28

### Mirror's chief nets £1m

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

MIRROR GROUP, the media company, revealed yesterday that David Montgomery, chief executive, had netted £1 million by cashing in 550,000 shares in the company.

Mr Montgomery made a profit of £608,000 by converting options granted at 61p and then selling at 213p. He also sold a further 150,000 of his existing shares at the same price.

The dealings were made on Friday and notified to the market yesterday. Mr Montgomery is understood to have made the share disposals to raise funds to meet moving costs.

Mr Montgomery, who was paid a total of £473,000 last year, still holds 580,000 options granted at 61p and a further 164,000 at 213p. He also continues to own 51,000 ordinary shares.

In addition, there was some confusion over Blenheim's

### Reed approach for Blenheim

By JASON NISSE

REED ELSEVIER, the Anglo-Dutch media group, has made a bid approach to Blenheim Group, valuing the exhibitions concern at around £480 million. However, Blenheim has given strong hints that it may reject the offer as too low.

Blenheim announced yesterday that it had received an approach "at a level which the board has previously rejected". The news forced Blenheim shares, which in recent months have been as high as 470p and as low as 340p, up 52p to 420p.

Reed has been identified as the bidder and a price of 480p a share, valuing the group at around £480 million, has emerged from the negotiations. However, Neville Buch, Blenheim's chairman, is understood to want as much as 550p a share.

In addition, there was some confusion over Blenheim's

Pennington, page 27

## BSE crisis costs Dalgety over £15m

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

DALGETY, the petfood giant that owns Spillers and Felix, said yesterday that the BSE crisis had cost it more than £15 million.

The company made a pre-tax profit, excluding one-off items, of £101.9 million, 20 per cent below last year's £127.1 million. Including one-off items, profits were £89.6 million in the year ended June 30, compared with £93.7 million a year earlier.

Richard Clothier, chief executive, said: "This year has been exceptionally challeng-

ing for Dalgety. A steep rise in raw material costs and the BSE crisis seriously affected four of our five businesses. In addition, UK petfoods performed below expectations due to lower sales volumes."

He said that he remained confident of improved growth "subject to the uncertain effect of BSE on petfood exports and cattle feed".

The market for petfoods in the UK has continued to shrink and Spillers has lost market share, particularly in dogfood, he said. On the other

hand, Felix catfood, which Dalgety acquired from Quaker Oats last year, became the leading canned catfood in the UK, with 26 per cent of the market.

Catfood contamination in The Netherlands that killed 330 cats cost Dalgety £5 million, he said, and its market share there has shrunk. A Dutch supplier was blamed for the incident.

Other one-off charges included £5.2 million for reorganising Quaker Petfoods, closing four factories and cutting jobs in Europe. A further £10.9 million was taken for revamping property.

Mr Clothier said that improving dividend cover was a priority for the group.

The final dividend of 13.5p per share means the full-year dividend is maintained at 22p, but it is not quite covered. Earnings per share stayed at 20.4p. Mr Clothier added: "I would feel much more comfortable when we achieve a cover of say 1.5 times."

Tempus, page 28



Clothier: challenging year

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## RAM slumps to £6m loss

By JON ASHWORTH

ROTHSCHILD Asset Management (RAM), the fund management group made a profit of £3.6 million in the year to March 31, 1994, then dipped to a loss of £471,000 in 1995, according to figures filed at Companies House. Some £2 million has been spent bringing RAM's various offices together under a new umbrella company, RAM BV, based in The Netherlands, and run by Baron Eric de Rothschild, part of the French side of the clan. Offices in London, Guernsey, the Isle of Man,

Paris, Australia, Switzerland, New York and Hong Kong, were formerly run as a loose confederation of units.

RAM said no decision had been taken on whether to replace Amschel Rothschild. Peter Troughton, brought in as chief executive in London last year, has assumed day-to-day running of the group. RAM has \$28 billion under management worldwide. Of \$18 billion under management in the UK, \$14 billion is held for institutional investors and \$4 billion for private investors.

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JOHN CHARCOL

Typical Example: A £50,000 interest-only mortgage (includes 0.95% lender's arrangement fee) on a property valued at £75,000, completed on September 27 1995, repaid over 25 years. 1 plus monthly payment of £290.25, 298 gross monthly repayment of £251.06 and a final gross payment of £50,540.00 at 5.99% APR.  
\* Total amount payable £125,577.97 excludes an arrangement fee of £2,950.00, £100 legal fee, £150 valuation fee and £25 stamp duty. The PIA does not

## Hays plc: another year of strong growth.



**Distribution** Operating profit up 11% with progress in both the UK and Continental Europe.



**Commercial** Operating profit up 19% with improved services and benefit of investment.



**Personnel** Operating profit up 37% as employers in specialist sectors make increased use of contract staff.

### Results for the year ended 30 June 1996

Group operating profit grew by 20% on a total revenue increase of 19%; an excellent result in an uncertain European economic environment. All three core activities contributed to this result.

Group pre-tax profits rose by 20% to £132m, and earnings per share increased by 19% to 22.3p. The final dividend will be increased by almost 16% to 8.1p, in line with our commitment to improving shareholder returns.

In addition to sales and business growth, good financial control and strong cash generation has been maintained.

The year also included the creation of a new senior management level; Business Sector Directors, whose role is to support the planned and expected growth of the Group as a whole, and to ensure continued improvement both in profit margins and quality of service to our customers.

Organic growth across all three core activities has been supplemented by infill and development acquisitions in Commercial.

In Continental Europe, there were important new contracts in high-value, non-food services to key retailers, with new operations being started in Paris, Marseilles and Bordeaux. Hays Chemical Distribution continued its excellent growth, albeit at a reduced pace in the second half.

In our Commercial businesses there has been substantial growth, particularly with the Document Exchange continuing its expansion into new markets. Hays Information Management maintained its excellent progress, both in the UK and overseas. Hays Express Services continued its growth with progress into new business sectors.

Personnel continues to build on last year's excellent progress. The use of contract staff continues to grow in the accounting, building, banking and IT areas. Enhanced IT support enabled a substantial improvement in operating margins.

We continue to maintain strong positions in our chosen fields by investing both in new opportunities and quality services that add real value for our customers. Hays plc faces the future with confidence.

### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS for the year ended 30 June 1996

|                                 | 1995    | 1996    | % Change |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Profit before tax               | £110.3m | £132.0m | +20      |
| Earnings per ordinary share     | 18.7p   | 22.3p   | +19      |
| Net dividend per ordinary share | 7.0p    | 8.1p    | +16      |



To reserve your copy of the Annual Report for 1995/6, please write to David Beckley, Hays plc, Hays House, Millmead, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5HJ.

This advertisement has been approved by Deloitte & Touche, who are authorized to carry on investment business by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

# Analysts fear payout cut at English China Clays

By PAUL DURMAN

FEARS that English China Clays may have to cut its dividend grew stronger yesterday as the company reported weak profits and the first sketchy conclusions from its continuing strategic review.

The poor figures prompted Standard & Poor's, the rating agency, to consider downgrading the A+ and A- ratings that it gives ECC's debt.

Analysts were disappointed that ECC was unable to give more details of the changes on which it is working with the help of McKinsey, the management consultants. ECC hopes to cut £30 million from the annual costs of running its kaolin business, supplier of coatings to the paper industry.

However, it could not spell out the costs of implementing these cuts.

ECC is maintaining its interim dividend at 5.5p a share, but it is making no promises about the final. Charles Pick, analyst at Panmure Gordon, is among those expecting a cut. He believes the full-year payment may fall to 11p, against 16.7p last year.

Sharply falling sales to the paper industry, escalating costs and an £18.6 million write-down of the value of businesses in Europe, the Pacific and Brazil cut ECC's pre-tax profits in the first half to just £5.7 million. In the same period last year it made £5.3 million.

After tax, this produced a

loss to shareholders of £2.7 million, compared with a profit of £37.5 million last year. The loss per share was 0.26p (earns of 12.27p).

Although badly hit by stock run-downs by paper manufacturers, the company also ran up significant additional costs because of manufacturing problems at its kaolin operation in Georgia. Profits at ECC Americas/Pacific fell from £19.5 million to £12.1 million, while the contribution from ECC Europe tumbled from £33.2 million to £21.5 million.

Calgon, the specialty chemicals business, lost several million pounds on a mammoth global contract to supply Scott Paper after making a mess of final negotiations.

Calgon slipped to profits of £1 million (£6.6 million).

Dennis Rediker, ECC chief executive, has installed new management at Calgon, who, he believes, will deliver a "dramatic change" in its results over the next 18 months.

Mr Pick said some of ECC's problems are self-inflicted. "They put the final dividend up in March even though the paper industry was already affected by a fairly savage downturn. It was only a few months ago that they were pinning their hopes on the Scott Paper contract."

ECC said second-half trading is so far not showing any marked improvement.

Tempus, page 28

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### 'Vulnerable' offered free BT conversion

BT WILL convert two million old-style wired telephones for free, it was announced yesterday. The six-month offer means that customers will not be asked to pay the £29.38 normally charged for replacing the old wiring with a plug and socket. The conversion will be carried out for free at any time for any customer defined as "vulnerable". This will include people with impaired hearing or vision, a physical or mobility disability, or those who are chronically sick or disabled.

Jean Gaffin, the chairman of the Advisory Committee on Telecommunications for Disabled and Elderly People (Dieltel Oftel), the industry regulator, said: "This is great news for almost two million BT customers and it is something we have been pressing for years. It will especially benefit elderly people wanting connection to community alarm systems and more appropriate telephones who were previously deterred by the cost of conversion."

### Retail stocks rise in US

RETAIL inventories in America jumped at the sharpest rate in 1½ years during July, the Commerce Department reported yesterday, boosting stocks of unsold goods on the shelves of all types of businesses. Total business inventories rose 0.4 per cent in July to a seasonally adjusted \$1 trillion after being revised to show no change in June. Previously, the department reported that June inventories had risen 0.1 per cent. Recent reports have shown some moderation in the pace of consumer spending at start of the second half, which analysts said probably played a role in the higher July inventories.

### Dinkie Heel advances

DINKIE HEEL, the manufacturer of components and materials for the shoe industry, achieved a rise in pre-tax profits to £379,000 from £315,000 in the half-year to June 30 despite difficult trading conditions in the retail sector. Earnings were 2.15p a share (1.83p). The interim dividend, which will be paid on December 2, is increased to 0.6p a share from 0.5p. There was a 10 per cent rise in sales to £4.09 million, with a maiden £251,000 contribution from Davies & Co (Kettering), acquired in May. Continued progress is expected in the second half of the year.

### Bad debts higher

BAD DEBTS and business failures in Britain are running 10 per cent higher than one year ago according to Trade Indemnity, the credit insurer. The company's quarterly business review suggests sales growth is slower than in the period from 1993 to 1995 and that increased sales are being achieved at the expense of profits. This is the result of weakening of demand during 1995, which caused an accumulation of unsold goods, Trade Indemnity said. The survey estimates that although house prices have risen 15 per cent this year they are 20 per cent below their peak in 1989.

### Nike profits run ahead

NIKE, the world's biggest maker of athletic footwear, achieved a 24 per cent rise in earnings to \$226.1 million, or \$1.53 a share, in the first quarter. It further pleased Wall Street investors with news of a share split, its second in as many years. Revenues jumped 34 per cent to \$2.28 billion from \$1.70 billion last year. In the first quarter, US athletic footwear and apparel revenues totalled \$1.35 billion, up 39 per cent from a year ago. International athletic footwear and apparel revenues rose 35 per cent to \$780.9 million. Nike said.

### Sharpe & Fisher boost

SHARPE & FISHER, the building supplies company based in the west of England, welcomed signs of an improvement in housing transactions as it reported a rise in operating profits to £1.96 million from £1.8 million for the six months to June 30. At the pre-tax level profits eased to £1.54 million from £1.65 million, held back by re-organisation costs. Earnings were 4.9p a share (3.5p). The interim dividend rises to 1.8p from 1.7p, due on November 15. Turnover rose to £33.7 million from £30.8 million previously. The company acquired Goodlands, with eight branches in the south west, for £2.87 million.

### Bayer to restructure

BAYER, the German chemicals group, yesterday announced a corporate restructuring that it hopes will simplify chains of command and free the board to focus more on long-term strategy. The restructuring will organize Bayer's 21 business groups into five segments from the previous six: polymers, chemicals, healthcare, agriculture and Agfa, its photographic and imaging division. The chemicals division has been formed by bringing the organics and industrial products divisions under one roof. The company emphasised that the move is not aimed at job-shedding, but at streamlining decision-making.

### Raytheon wins contract

AMERICA'S Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has awarded a contract potentially worth nearly \$1 billion to a team of companies led by Raytheon to upgrade air traffic control systems. Raytheon won the contract over Boeing and Lockheed Martin. The contract is to build the standard terminal automation replacement system (Stars) to replace air traffic control computers with a next-generation system for FAA and Department of Defense facilities across America. The systems are used in the airspace within about 50 miles of airports.

### Whittard brews success

WHITTARD OF CHELSEA, the tea and coffee retailer, reported an increase in profits to £1.8 million before tax from £1.3 million for the year to May 31. The company, which floated on the Alternative Investment Market in June, said maiden earnings were 0.7p a share. Sales were 39 per cent at £21.75 million. Four new shops have opened since June, lifting the total number of outlets in Britain to 82. Directors intend to pay interim and final dividends for the year to the end of May 1997 in April 1997 and October 1997 respectively.

### US utilities to merge in \$4.8bn deal

OHIO EDISON and Centaur Energy, two of America's largest electricity utilities, have agreed to merge, forming a new holding company, in a stock-for-stock deal valued at \$4.8 billion.

The merger, which the utilities hope to complete by the end of 1997, would create the nation's 11th largest investor-owned electricity system. The deal comes amid a wave of consolidation in the industry. Ohio Edison serves parts of Ohio and its Pennsylvania Power subsidiary operates in western Pennsylvania. Centaur's Cleveland Electric Illuminating Company and Toledo Edison serve northern Ohio.

### TOURIST RATES

|                | Bank Buys | Bank Sales |
|----------------|-----------|------------|
| Australia S    | 2.05      | 1.90       |
| Austria Sch    | 17.55     | 16.05      |
| Belgium Fr     | 51.38     | 47.05      |
| Canada S       | 2.227     | 2.077      |
| Denmark Kr     | 6.95      | 6.65       |
| Finland Milk   | 7.05      | 7.01       |
| France Fr      | 8.41      | 7.75       |
| Greece Dr      | 2.21      | 2.30       |
| Iceland Is     | 1.50      | 1.45       |
| Hong Kong S    | 18.25     | 17.65      |
| Ireland Irl    | 115       | 105        |
| Italy Lira     | 1.02      | 0.94       |
| Ireland Shl    | 5.52      | 4.97       |
| Italy Lira     | 2484      | 2229       |
| Japan Yen      | 166.00    | 170.00     |
| Malta Liri     | 0.6202    | 0.547      |
| New Zealand \$ | 2.20      | 2.15       |
| Norway Kr      | 10.82     | 9.82       |
| Portugal Esc   | 251.50    | 233.00     |
| Spain Pes      | 30.20     | 28.00      |
| Sweden Kr      | 11.00     | 10.30      |
| Switzerland Fr | 2.05      | 1.95       |
| USA \$         | 141.50    | 132.00     |
| UK £           | 1.525     | 1.525      |

Rates for small denominations bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates are at close of trading yesterday.

## Greenhills loses chosen advisers

By JASON NISSE

BRIAN COPSEY, who owns 10 per cent of Greenhills, the troubled leisure group, vowed to put the company on an even keel yesterday after Neill Clark Capital, its nominated financial advisers, resigned following a Stock Exchange investigation.

Deutsche Bank, which owns Morgan Grenfell, has injected £180 million to cover potential exposure to the unlisted securities. The bank is considering moving responsibility for its UK unit trust business from London to Frankfurt.

Investigated the company. Greenhill shares, which trade on the Alternative Investment Market, have been suspended.

The information Greenhills omitted to pass on was that a company controlled by John Gilbert, a director of the group, fitted out the company's Thunder Road restaurant in the West End of London: a contract to distribute Russian Dawn vodka would not be proceeding; and Tussauds Group has pulled out of Greenhill's venture to develop a Hollywood themed restaurant called Dream Factory.

Staff and creditors, owed more than £1 million, say they have not been paid by Greenhills for work done on Thunder Road. Mr Copsey said genuine claims would be paid.

## Directors' pay rises exceed 12%

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE annual rise in the average pay package awarded to top directors is back in double figures this year, according to research published today.

An average increase of 12.6 per cent was awarded to the highest-paid directors at the UK's largest public companies, compared with 9.1 per cent last year and 22.2 per cent in 1994, according to the Income Data Services. It found the average total pay package was £684,671.

The IDS Management Pay Review analysed data on the highest-paid directors' pay, benefits and bonuses contained in the most recent annual reports of 96 of the top 100 companies in the stock market. The analysis showed:

■ Base salary and benefits —

the fixed elements of remuneration — increased by an average 7.1 per cent to an average level of £448,801.

■ Annual bonus levels rose to an average of £243,157 compared with £147,019 in the previous survey.

■ Total emoluments increased by more than 40 per cent at five companies and by more than 20 per cent at a further 16, while 10 company directors saw their package shrink.

■ Eleven top directors received a total pay package of more than £1 million.

IDS said most companies had failed to follow the advice of the Greenbury committee on executive pay which called for companies to reduce employment contracts to one year.

### Results read well for multimedia publisher

## Dorling excels in tough market

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

DORLING Kindersley Holdings, the multimedia publishing company, yesterday saw a 37 per cent rise in full-year profits to £17.4 million as sales of the company's illustrated reference books and CD-Roms continue to boom.

But Peter Kindersley, chairman and chief executive, said the US multimedia market was proving tough, with some competitors slashing

OFT deliberates BA's merger that isn't  One man's view of EMU  Blenheim needs a touch of reality

THE quasi-merger between British Airways and American Airlines is one of those areas where strict interpretation of the rules might be less fair than a blurred fudge, because airlines have always been a business where national pride takes precedence over commercial logic.

There is no rational reason why every single member of the European Community, for example, should have its own national carrier. Any sensible scheme drawn up *ab initio* to cover the Continent would require three or four airlines, whatever number might be needed to create sufficient competition to prevent the misuse of monopoly power. This is, after all, what emerged in the United States, where amalgamations and other consolidation have created an industry that is at long last profitable again.

The insistence of every sovereign state on maintaining its own air fleet means, predictably, that no one makes any money. Regular injections of state cash keep the planes in the air, this being another area where the Treaty of Rome, and those articles dealing with unfair competition, is generally ignored.

BA's problem is that the British Government takes the Treaty rather more seriously than its partners — on this subject as on many others, one might add.

Hence the cost-cutting, and the job losses expected from Robert Ayling's Step Change project. This column took Mr Ayling, chief executive at British Airways, to task a week ago for the damage he was doing to morale in the pilots' lounge, sparking a strong positive response from several BA employees. Not surprisingly, few wanted to leave their names. His popularity is unlikely to be enhanced by further bad news on the jobs front this week.

And hence the merger that dare not speak its name. American is unhappy, quite rightly, with so-called "code-sharing," where passengers may be switched from one airline to another half-way through their journey even though they thought they have booked with one alone. But this is the deal available, and American has grown to accept it.

BA for its part is going to have to give up some of its slots at Heathrow with whatever good grace Mr Ayling can muster — but not too many, which will be a long way from a proper "open skies" policy. The question being

considered by the Office of Fair Trading is whether such an artificial arrangement provides enough new competition on Heathrow routes to exert downward pressure on prices.

American Airlines, despite having a ready alternative bride in Air France, has indicated a willingness to delay the wedding until the matter has been tested at the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. BA is keen to avoid this. No one enjoys such long-winded affairs, but there are times when they are necessary. This looks like one of them. Fortunately, the indications are the OFT is also taking this view.

### Hays takes the slow road

THE business world is convulsed over the question of the single currency, we are assured, and over what percentage of business leaders, by the usual dubious or self-serving statistics, want Britain to be part of Economic and Monetary Union.

It is easy to forget that large numbers of them are agnostics.

1989, but he was frustrated by family members with a 38 per cent holding.

Hays bounced back within weeks with another significant deal, which had typically been negotiated in parallel with Salvesen. The premium rating the shares enjoy, selling on almost 20 times' this year's profits, says that the market is expecting expansion to continue, but Mr Frost may now be forced to take a more indirect route. The areas his company is in, distribution and similar industrial services, are still highly fragmented on the Continent, but this brings its own dangers.

Life goes on, imports and exports flow from one country to another, whatever the politicians decide. One such is Ronnie Frost at Hays Group. The man who admits to shipping five million cartons of yoghurt across from the Continent each day, even though he loathes the stuff, might be thought to have strong views on the effect on cross-border trade, but he insists EMU will make no difference whatever Britain does.

Instead Mr Frost is upset about another little cosy business cartel, the one that shut him out of taking over Christian Salvesen this summer. That company was the ideal next leg up for a business that has grown five-fold since coming to the market in

returning to Salvesen — or any constituent part, should that company, as expected, one day be broken up.

### Lost in the land of Oz

I DON'T think we're in Kansas any more, Toto," said Dorothy at the start of the Yellow Brick Road. Perhaps Stephan Svenby, the sensible managing director of Blenheim, should turn to Neville Buch, his chairman, and say: "We're not City darlings any more, Neville."

One cannot help but wonder whether Mr Buch and the two other directors who control a quarter of Blenheim's shares have noticed the tornado that has flattened their company over the past three years. In early 1993 the shares stood at nearly £6. Then came a combination of bad results, overblown expectations and revelations about how the group was run, and the shares fell to a low of 17p. The possibility that anyone would offer as much as 480p looked like the quaintest fantasy.

To have rejected an offer at that price from United News & Media looked pretty daft subsequently, as Blenheim's share price collapsed to under 35p. Now Reed Elsevier, which had always been hovering in the background, is offering close to 480p again. But Buch and friends are thought to be pressing for something more like 550p.

Given that the French business is the key to Blenheim, and Reed employs a strong team of former Blenheim managers in France, then Reed is well able to value Blenheim and run it as a subsidiary should the incumbents take their money and move to pastures new. If Blenheim rejects Reed's approach, Reed should make an aggressive offer at about 400p. At which point, 480p will look a generous price indeed.

### Two Dogs fight

WHEN Two Dogs arrived on these shores, neither of the market leaders in cider could see much future in alcoholic lemonade. Two years later, and Two Dogs has floored one of them, Matthew Clark. The other, HP Bulmer, is off to Australia to help the brand to expand there. One hopes Peter Aikens, Clark's chief executive and now hanging on to his job by his fingernails, is able to appreciate the irony.

## Open skies, closed deals



## Hays chief rules out bid for rival

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

RONNIE FROST, chairman of Hays, yesterday ruled out another takeover bid for a rival quoted distribution company but said the business services group would concentrate on expanding its commercial division and specialised logistics operations (See Pennington, this page).

Mr Frost added that he expected growth to be organic and through acquisitions ranging in size up to £100 million. He said that the good start to the year and was under no pressure to find major acquisitions to ensure future growth.

Hays made a £1.14 billion offer for Christian Salvesen, the business services group, but withdrew last month when it failed to win the support of the Salvesen board.

Hays unveiled a 20 per cent rise in full-year profits to £132 million. Turnover rose 19 per cent to £966 million, while the total dividend was increased 16 per cent to 8.1p.

The results were in line with expectations, but the market

marked down shares 2.5p from their record high, closing yesterday at 478.5p.

Hays recently bought ICS Corporation for £65 million. Mr Frost predicted the premium delivery business would contribute £15 million to profits in the next three years.

Profits in the distribution division rose 11 per cent to £61 million. The company said it was looking to expand its European operations, but had already won new contracts with Waitrose and Scottish & Newcastle.

Profits in the commercial division rose 19 per cent to £39 million, with courier business being helped by the postal strike.

Profits in the personnel division rose 37 per cent to £37 million, helped by the increased trend towards using temporary labour. A final dividend of 5.5p is payable on November 29.

Hays announced the appointment of John Cole, former chief executive officer of Mayne Nickless Europe, as an executive director.

### Laporte hurt by sell-offs

By PAUL DURMAN

LAPORTE, the chemicals company that has replaced its senior management team since Jim Leng became chief executive last year, made a £23.9 million loss on businesses sold during the first half.

The losses cut interim pre-tax profits to £36.4 million, down from £67 million last year. If the loss on disposal is ignored, profits fell by a more modest 10 per cent to £60.3 million.

Mr Leng's disposal programme continued yesterday with the sale of businesses in Thailand, Brazil and France for a total of £7.8 million.

Mr Leng said although Laporte was a fine business, it had achieved earnings per share growth of only 1.2 per cent since 1990.

Profits from continuing operations were steady at £60.5 million, although margins fell back to 11.4 per cent (12.3 per cent). The interim dividend is maintained at 8.5p.

## Guinness includes UK staff in works council

GUINNESS, the drinks group, yesterday announced it will include representatives from its British workforce in its new European works council (Alasdair Murray writes).

Around 10,000 of its 14,000 European workforces are based in the UK.

The move to establish a European employee forum comes just ahead of the legal deadline next Sunday for the establishment of voluntary arrangements and the implementation of the European Works Council Directive.

### Top spot for Allied Irish Banks

By OUR BUSINESS STAFF

ALLIED Irish Banks is regarded as the best bank by small businesses, while TSB is rated the worst, according to a survey by the Forum of Private Business.

Of the big four high street banks, Lloyds is best, followed by Midland, NatWest and Barclays. The survey said all the big four had improved slightly since 1994, although Barclays had again attracted the most negative responses from its business customers.

The report, based on the views of more than 10,000 businesses, pointed out that firms' perceptions of their banks were much more positive where the relationship was closer and better informed.

The benefits of a closer relationship included lower interest margins over the base rate, lower levels of collateral, fewer bank mistakes, lower transaction charges and less desire to change bank.

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| SHARELINK                | 0345 665665  |
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| YORKSHARE                | 0800 736736  |

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# Positive mood boosts banks and insurers

WALL STREET continued upwards and the FTSE edged forward cautiously after last Friday's buoyant response to US economic data that suggested steady American interest rates. The FTSE 100 index closed at 3,977.2, up 9.3 points, having recorded a new intraday peak of 3,980.8.

A broad range of sectors benefited from the positive mood including banks, insurances and buildings. The defence and aerospace sectors remained bullish about the uncertain situation in the Gulf.

The banking sector was stirred by the confidence in HSBC, which increased from £1.89 to £2.05. Lloyds TSB benefited from a positive James Capel report and finished 5p firmer at 362.4p. Barlays was down 1p to 945p, while the Royal Bank of Scotland moved up 1p to 490p. Natwest rose from 678p to 687p.

Of the insurance companies, General Accident was the biggest winner. With an increase of 14p to 667.5p it was one of the FTSE's best performing shares. Commercial Union, rose 2.4p to 607p, and Royal Sun, from 398p to 402p.

In the building sector, Amey made a particular impact with shares up 16.5p to 367p after doubling profits. At RMC, which is reporting interim results on Thursday, news may not be quite as spectacular, but dealers still have high hopes as the shares rose to 1,115.65, up 14.5p.

Other building stocks followed their example. Amec rose to 102p from 98p, Bellway was up 3p to 343.5p and Jarvis moved from 91.5p to 93.5p, while troubled Costain slipped yet from 66p to 59p.

Redrow managed to move up from 133p to 134p, after the publication of decent results. Dealers are putting some faith in the words of Steve Morgan, the chairman, who promised a resumption of profit growth.

The defence and aerospace sectors were getting maximum mileage out of the new quarrel with President Saddam Hussein in the Gulf. TI Group closed at 578.5p, up 12p, and GEC ended the day at 395p, up 6p. Dealers are speculating that with the US presidential elections coming closer the conflict may be hotting up.

British Aerospace, up 3p to 610.65%, is continuing its post-Farnborough rise, after an



The building sector, in general, saw share prices rise

announcement that the group will not press for an increase in its 20 per cent stake in Airbus Industrie, even though its assets could prove to be worth relatively more than those of its European partners, according to a recent press report.

Airbus this year announced plans to become a limited company. Industry observers

say Oxford Molecular announced software licensing agreements with Hoffmann-La Roche and Abbott Laboratories. The licences are the first commercial installations of RS3 Discovery, a software program that transforms the corporation's standard relational database system into a high-performance, chemical-structure search engine. The shares rose from 321.5p to 324p.

Globo Wellcome also saw a price increase from 955p to 962.5p in connection with reports about new research showing promising results from trials of a new AIDS drug. Vertex, the US drugs company, is developing a new protease inhibitor in partnership with Glaxo. The new drug, which the partners have said may be available for AIDS treatment in 1998, is designed to be used in combination with more traditional treatments of AIDS.

On the takeover front, Blethenclimber climbed 52.5p to 420p after confirmation of a new bid approach, with Reed Elsevier the likely predator. Danka rose 15p to 697.5p, still encouraged by the growth prospects of last week's photocopier deal with Kodak.

In foods, Nestle takeover speculation offset the expected gloomy results from Dalgety.

Dalgety this year announced

plans to become a limited company. Industry observers

said the stock in the wake of recent presentations by Dick Brown, the chief executive. The Merrill Lynch telecoms team said it has set a target price of 500p and moved its stance from neutral to accumulate after a briefing with Mr Brown. Another analyst said he will issue a "very positive" research note on the shares this week. "We're 90 per cent

of the time right," he said. Though Mr Brown has not signalled large-scale corporate restructuring, smaller scale corporate moves are expected to "crystallise value". Further afield, analysts consider Mr Brown will use his contacts in the US to form an alliance to bolster the group's American subsidiary.

In the pharmaceuticals sec-

tors, BAE has accepted that any increase in its Airbus stake would be politically unacceptable in Germany and France. Among the alternatives to be explored is the possibility that BAE might receive relatively higher payments for the work it does for Airbus.

Shares in Cable and Wireless were 7.5p better at 485p as analysts turned positive on

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THE TIMES

**A family book for Kindersley**

TO HELP to cut costs, Peter Kindersley, chairman and chief executive of Dorling Kindersley, recruited his son and daughter-in-law to help to compile "Children Like Me", the publishing company's best-selling title this year. Kindersley Jnr, aka Barnabas, took the photographs, while Anabel, his wife, supplied the text. "He's much cheaper you see," explains Kindersley Snr. "But Barnabas complained all the time, particularly when he was arrested in China over a dispute with a taxi driver who drove away with their camera equipment." His wife managed to find an interpreter, who negotiated a large payment for his freedom.

**Tercenarians**

A DAY of wassail for members of The Tercenarians, that club open to businesses whose companies date back at least 300 years. Eight members, including Christopher Hoare, the banker, and Richard Durnell of the building company that dates from 1591, will meet today for the club's 28th annual meeting. Bryan Toye, chairman of Toye Kenning & Spencer and this year's host, will introduce members to Florrie Doyle, the only person now to make tassles and ornaments by hand for a Chancellor's robe, who arrived at the company aged 16 in 1935. "The only trouble is her time clock," whispers Toye. "It dates back to the old days, when she came in at six."

**Tax haven estate**

ANYONE looking for a bolt hole on the Isle of Man before the next elections could do worse than the Ballaramaugh Estate. The tax haven's largest estate ever to come on the market was once home to Daniel McDonald, the inventor of the Dansette automatic record player changing device, and founder of BSR, the electronics empire. Priced at £3.5 million through Knight Frank, the 950-acre estate includes a mansion house restored to pristine condition during the 1980s by Dr McDonald.

**Brought to book**

FOUR solicitors from Ashurst Morris Crisp felt the firm arm of the law in two different countries this weekend. To raise money for St John Ambulance by travelling as far as possible from the Tower of London in 24 hours, the team enlisted the City of London Police to bundle them into the back of a van and drive them to Bishopsgate. Eighteen hours later, they arrived in Washington. Outside the White House with a bottle of bubbly, the team were set upon by an officer from the Alcohol Investigations Bureau, who instructed them on America's draconian drinking laws.

**NUMBER Six Bishoptgate, former home to Barings, is now occupied by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, while its headquarters are being built on Great Winchester Street. So who will be the brave new sitting ducks, sorry tenants, when DMG moves out in two years?**

MORAG PRESTON



The Bank of England can take a positive lead in guiding the City of London through what will be a major change as the euro comes into being

## George reassures worriers on coping with the euro

**Bank of England Governor believes that in or out of a single currency the City will thrive, says Janet Bush**

We are not accustomed to thinking of Eddie George as a knight in shining armour, questing heroically in defence of his country. But with our political leaders sitting not on trusty steeds but on the fence as far as Europe is concerned, the Bank of England Governor is one of very few public figures clearly articulating some of the risks for Britain.

Mr George yesterday launched an effective broadside on two fronts. He demolished concerns in some sections of British business that the City will lose its position as Europe's pre-eminent financial centre if Britain fails to join a single currency.

He told a press conference to launch the Bank's second quarterly report on preparations for a single currency yesterday that there were risks and opportunities for London whether in or out of a single currency. On closer questioning, he admitted that it was rather difficult to identify risks to the City.

But Mr George also used the occasion to express his concern that countries such as France and Germany would press ahead with forming a single currency by the 1999 deadline in spite of the fact that the economic background remained "unpromising".

As suspicions grow that the Maastricht criteria will be fudged to allow France to join a single currency, he said political strife and economic instability would follow and that Britain should not expose itself to such heightened risks.

His list of some of the risks of forming a single currency without "substantive convergence" included difficulties in agreeing on a single monetary policy; the creation of areas of persistently high unemployment on one hand and areas of excessive inflationary growth on the other; and the need for enormous fiscal transfers from some regions to others.

The Governor said he would

disapprove of creative accounting to qualify for a single currency. He would regard "shepherding some people through the door even if they haven't converged their economies properly" as creative accounting.

He said his concerns were shared by fellow central bankers serving on the European Monetary Institute, but they have not been expressed as forcefully in public. It is natural, of course, that the Governor from a "probably pre-out", as one official put it, is more free to express scepticism than even independent central bankers from countries that regard themselves as definite "ins".

It is ironic that Mr George may be one of the most honest voices on these issues, but is most unlikely to get a vote when the substantive decisions

on the shape of Europe are finally made if Britain continues to exercise its opt-out.

But the Bank can take a firm and positive lead, whether Britain is "in" or "out", in guiding the City of London through what will be a major change as the euro comes into being. Mr George said yesterday that he believed that a core of countries would go ahead to form a single currency in 1999, whatever the economic problems, because of the political determination of Helmut Kohl and Jacques Chirac.

Because of this realisation, preparations for the coming of the euro in the City had intensified noticeably since the first technical report by the Bank in May. Whatever our politicians eventually decide, Mr George is now confident that Britain will be ready to the euro.

The Governor yesterday also repelled a threatened attack on the status of the City of London. He decried attempts by French and German banks to prevent equal access to Target, the new euro payments and settlements system, to those countries that remain outside the first wave of entrants to the single currency. The French and Germans have been arguing that "outs", expected to include Britain, should not have access to intraday credit from the European Central Bank (ECB) through the system.

In yesterday's report, the Bank said: "Any attempt to introduce differential terms for 'outs' compared with 'ins' would be discriminatory and be likely to contravene both the single market legislation and EU competition law."

Mr George expressed disappointment that constructive discussions in the European Monetary Institute were being threatened for the first time by jostling for national interests and said attempts at discrimination would be vigorously opposed by the Bank.

He was even more effective in deflating those who would try to wrest business away from the City. It just won't work, he said. Whether in or out of a single currency, the City will thrive.

On the narrow subject of differences over Target, banks

Eddie George would disapprove of creative accounting

**BUSINESS LETTERS**

### Time for co-operative approach to devising a national strategy on housing

**From David Hopkinson**  
Sir, Joe Dwyer, the chairman of George Wimpey, shows clearly that the supply of land is at the heart of the provision of adequate and affordable housing in this country. Land supply is key to a controlled housing recovery. *Business News*, September 7.

It is not a matter, however, of simply taking the Government's estimates of the number of extra homes needed over the next 20 years and requiring that the correct area of development land is released. The planning system

exists to try to reconcile competing demands for protecting open land, for helping to ensure that local housing need is met, for trying to guide development on to suitable urban sites, for minimising the need to travel long distances, to bring back into use empty properties and to cater for the national demand for housing.

In some cases these aims may be irreconcilable, but in all cases there is the need for a greater level of mutual understanding of the genuine concerns of those who promote

development and those who seek to control it.

It would be all too easy for the growing debate about the location of new housing to be reduced to the battle between the rapacious developer and the "Nimby" protectionist.

The only losers in such a one-dimensional conflict would be those who genuinely need housing and those areas that can benefit from the boost to the local economy that housing investment can bring.

At the local level, the house development industry is proving itself adept at entering into

partnerships while the planning system can be flexible and innovative in encouraging such beneficial developments.

The challenge now is to bring such a co-operative approach to devising a national strategy for housing — a task not best left to government alone.

Yours faithfully,  
**DAVID HOPKINSON**  
(Vice-Chairman),  
National Housing and Town  
Planning Council,  
14-18 Old Street,  
EC1

### Loves Labour, is lost

**From Mrs Sylvia Murphy**  
Sir, I note with interest that the chairman of Arjo Wiggins Appleton is backing Labour (*The Times*, September 4).

Sadly, as those who own AWA shares will appreciate, this amounts to the kiss of death.

Yours faithfully,  
**SYLVIA MURPHY**,  
The Orchard,  
Pond Road,  
Hook Heath,  
Woking, Surrey.

116 Pall Mall, SW1.



ANATOLE KALETSKY

## Wall St cheap at the price

Over the past 18 months, I have discovered an excellent answer to anyone who asks my advice about the raging bull on Wall Street. My first comment is that any financial pundit who declares that an economy or a stock market are in a "golden age", is almost certainly wrong. My second comment is that the American economy and stock market is in a golden age.

So much for investment advice. Now for the economics. My two remarks are not, in fact, as much at odds as they appear. By definition, great secular changes in economic and social conditions do not happen very often; so people who claim to spot them are usually wrong. Until the industrial revolution, great changes used to happen about every 500 years. Given the acceleration of technological and social change since then, once or at most twice in a working lifetime now seems about right.

Furthermore, everything depends on timing: markets may already have fully discounted an economic transformation by the time the pundits have become aware of it. This is why people so often lose money by following self-evident advice of the form "buy into Asia because that is where the growth is". Last month, a brilliant attempt to unravel these questions landed on my desk: a paper called *Stocks and Bonds, a Secular Study* by Brian Reading, published by Lombard Street Research in London. Through a detailed and entertaining examination of financial history and economic statistics, Mr Reading shows that market cycles can be divided into two very different types of movement. Short cycles, which typically last two to five years, are closely related to interest rates. But superimposed on these, there are far longer and more powerful trends. These seem to be governed by technological and social phenomena, above all the battle over income distribution that causes inflation.

Since World War Two, there have been three such great thrusts. The two decades from 1948 to 1968 were a golden age for investors: US share prices rose 8 per cent annually in real terms and the ratio of share prices to GDP increased 2.5 times. The period of social conflict from 1968 to 1982 saw an equally decisive bear trend: share prices fell 7 per cent per year in real terms and the ratio of prices to GDP fell by half. After 1982 another golden age began: share prices have risen 10 per cent annually since then. The ratio of equity values to GDP is now 1.5 times higher than it was in 1948. But assuming a real economic growth rate of 2.5 per cent from now on, share prices could double, in real terms, over the next ten years and still be below their peak level of 1968, relative to GDP.

I don't think Wall Street will double or anything like — and neither does Mr Reading, for interesting reasons connected with demographics. But do not be swayed by conventional pundits who say that Wall Street is "grossly overvalued". Beg, borrow or steal a copy of Mr Reading's paper instead.

could still trade liquidly in euros by borrowing from each other rather than the ECB.

Spurred on by obvious irritation with this issue, officials are already talking about the Bank leading the way in designing a secondary market in euros in London. Just as when the huge Eurobond market sprang up in London when traders were looking for a market outside US regulation, so new "offshore" markets in euros could burgeon in London, a new and highly lucrative form of income.

The Governor yesterday also repelled a threatened attack on the status of the City of London. He decried attempts by French and German banks to prevent equal access to Target, the new euro payments and settlements system, to those countries that remain outside the first wave of entrants to the single currency. The French and Germans have been arguing that "outs", expected to include Britain, should not have access to intraday credit from the European Central Bank (ECB) through the system.

It is a huge vote of confidence in the expertise of the City that a plethora of specialist associations representing different market segments have done the substantial technical work on preparing for the euro. British experts have also given substantial direct advice to the European Commission.

Mr George reassured the worriers very simply: "The euro is just a bigger Deutschmark. We have seemed to do perfectly satisfactorily handling the mark just as we have the dollar and the yen. I am sure that the City will cope."

In yesterday's report, the Bank said: "Any attempt to introduce differential terms for 'outs' compared with 'ins' would be discriminatory and be likely to contravene both the single market legislation and EU competition law."

He was even more effective in deflating those who would try to wrest business away from the City. It just won't work, he said. Whether in or out of a single currency, the City will thrive.

On the narrow subject of

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**Only one airline offers an afternoon departure from London Gatwick to New York**

Continental is the only airline with a second flight to New York from London Gatwick, timed to allow you to do a full morning's work in the office before you depart. And as a BusinessFirst flyer you can select a complimentary chauffeur-driven car\* or relax in First Class on the Gatwick Express or Thameslink to whilst you to the airport. Contact your travel agent or Continental on 0800 747800. [www.flycontinental.com](http://www.flycontinental.com)

\*Certain conditions apply to complimentary chauffeur driven cars. For full details call Continental.

**Continental Airlines**

## Protean warns of problems at DWA

By PAUL DURMAN

SHARES of Protean lost nearly a third of their value yesterday as the laboratory equipment maker gave warning of serious problems at DWA, the German water purification business bought last year for £12.9 million.

Protean, which has grown rapidly, said DWA's contribution to first-half profits will be about £1.25 million less than expected. The company has dismissed DWA's managing director and replaced him with Anita Sayer, who was running Elga, the main UK arm of Protean's water purification equipment business.

Protean said full-year profits will be materially lower than expected. The company intends to maintain its interim dividend for the six months to the September 30.

The shares ended the day 80 p lower at 169p, valuing Protean at about £70 million.

Three months ago, Geoff Spink, Protean's managing director, was positive about DWA, reporting substantial rises in sales and profits. DWA contributed £2 million of the group's annual pre-tax profit of £10.3 million.

Yesterday Mr Spink said DWA and Armin Bechtel, its former managing director, had failed to respond to a fall-off in orders. He said Mr Bechtel, who Protean recruited last November to replace DWA's vendor, was "a fair-weather manager who became less effective as it got tougher". The business was progressively stalling, and Mr Bechtel did not implement agreed changes.

Ms Sayer's responsibilities at Elga will be taken up by Keith Rippington, the firm's chairman, who is a director of Protean.



Neil Ashley, left, chairman of Amey, and Eddie King, chief executive, reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £3.57 million from £1.74 million at the facilities management and construction group in the six months to June 30. The interim dividend rises to 3p from 2.4p, payable from earnings of 7.4p (4.1p). Order intake rose 163 per cent to £415 million in the first half and orders in hand advanced 71 per cent to £492 million

## Morgan Crucible to double its operations in China

By FRASER NELSON

**MORGAN CRUCIBLE**, the worldwide engineering group, is to double its presence in China by opening two new factories in a pioneering agreement with the Chinese Government.

The group has won approval to open a power transmission supplies factory, in which it will have a 71 per cent stake, and a ceramics factory, in which it will have a 100 per cent stake.

Foreign companies cannot, under Chinese law, wholly own a business, though the

Morgan Crucible deal is officially described as a joint venture. The ceramics factory is to be built in Pu Dong, a new duty-free zone created to woo overseas manufacturers, but by invitation only.

The deals, expected to be formally announced in October and December respectively, will add to Morgan's worldwide production base. In the six months to June 30 the group lifted pre-tax profits 22 per cent to £51.4 million in an underlying basic turnover was £444 million (£411 million), leaving operating profit of £44 million (£49 million).

The group made £2 million from the sale of Franklin Oil. Dr Farmer said that the disposal had been made after fears that the consolidation in the US automotive supply

graphical spread, which had helped to insulate Morgan against the downturn in the European market.

After acquisitions in Germany and Hong Kong, overseas sales grew to 88 per cent of group total, with 12 per cent from the UK. On an underlying basis turnover was £444 million (£411 million), leaving operating profit of £44 million (£49 million).

The group made £2 million from the sale of Franklin Oil. Dr Farmer said that the disposal had been made after fears that the consolidation in the US automotive supply

business would leave Franklin handing its technology to its competitors. He said: "It was making a healthy operating profit, but we'd sooner have sold it at that stage than have waited until the situation had reversed." Morgan had been heavily hit by the General Motors strike in the US, he added, estimating that the group had lost sales of \$13 million as a result.

Operating margins edged up from 12 per cent to 12.5 per cent, after Morgan raised prices by an average of 2 per cent across its operations. Capital expenditure grew 22 per cent to £24.9 million — 5.4 per cent of sales. £12.9 million was spent on growth, and £5.23 million on lifting productivity.

Fully diluted earnings rose 22 per cent, dismissing City speculation that the company's growth had peaked last year.

Analysts upgraded pre-tax profit forecasts to £100 million for the full year, up 18 per cent on the £85 million struck in 1995. The shares rose 449p to 460p. An interim dividend of 6.6p (6.25p) will be paid on January 6.

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## ■ OPERA 1

A fine new staging of *Don Giovanni* for Welsh National Opera is jeopardised by untidy conducting



## ■ OPERA 2

... while at Covent Garden Amanda Roocroft takes a little time to make her mark as Mimi

## THE TIMES ARTS



## ■ POP

In Dublin for the *In the City* festival Billy Bragg showed his lyric gifts to be undimmed



## ■ TOMORROW

Can Radio 3, 50 years old this month, learn the lessons of its own history?

OPERA: The conductor rules over *Don Giovanni*; plus a lively start to a *Bohème* season

# Shouting down a desperate Don

In recent years reactions to opera productions have all too often been along the lines of "wonderful music, pity about the staging". Over the last week that trend has certainly been bucked: first the sentimental, fuzzy-edged conducting of Jonathan Miller's *Traviata* at the Coliseum, and now Carlo Rizzi's frankly impossible reading of *Don Giovanni* for the opening of the Welsh National Opera's new season in Cardiff. It is good to be reminded that conductors are ultimately and decisively in charge of any opera performance (however bizarre a director's fantasies), but sad to be reminded so negatively.

Rizzi's *Giovanni* was hard, brash, driven, untidy, woodily phrased, ungraced and undecorated. Brisk Mozart may be the order of the day, but "authentic" tempos with a modern band are very dangerous, and the orchestra could often hardly get the notes out, let alone make any musical interest.

Don Giovanni  
New Theatre,  
Cardiff

because Katie Mitchell's production — her first opera in the wake of much stunning work at the RSC and National — was extremely interesting. As designed by Rae Smith, the action seemed to be set in one of the less salubrious quarters of Naples. The period was postwar Neorealism. There was a lot of God about: Fra Angelico's *Orvieto Christ in Majesty* figured prominently; two Piero della Francesca Madon-

sense of them. His *presto impossibile* for the first-act finale resulted in complete incoherence, and poor Ottavio's *"Il mio tesoro* was in danger of simply falling apart.

The soloists, constantly pushed along, resorted for the most part to singing very loudly indeed, recitatives: this was a shouted *Giovanni*, devoid of nuance and musical interest.

A great pity, because Katie Mitchell's production — her first opera in the wake of much stunning work at the RSC and National — was extremely interesting. As designed by Rae Smith, the action seemed to be set in one of the less salubrious quarters of Naples. The period was postwar Neorealism. There was a lot of God about: Fra Angelico's *Orvieto Christ in Majesty* figured prominently; two Piero della Francesca Madon-

nas came and went; hooded monks with blazing torches dispatched *Giovanni* to hell. There were a lot of suitcases — everyone in transit. There was violence — shotguns aplenty, *Zerlina* got a nasty black eye in the course of near-rape, and *Masetto* sported livid lacerations after his beating-up. *Giovanni* may have presided over his night-marish party in drag, but he was also shown emerging dishevelled from a brothel. These were details in a production that maintained strong narrative line — the first essential, many would say — and looked very handsome in Paula Constantine's darksome lighting.

Mitchell's vision was absorbing, provocative and adult, and I look forward to experiencing it again, preferably with a more sympathetic conductor in charge.

Restricted by the straitjacket

RODNEY MILNES

## All change in Bohemia

FOR the start of the new season, the last under Jeremy Isaacs's leadership and the last in the present house, Covent Garden has gone bohemian. Over the next month a quantity of different Rodolfo and Mimi, together with their friends, take the stage in *Bohème*, culminating in October with the arrival of the lovers of the moment, Roberto Alagna and Angela Gheorghiu.

The opening night brought a number of Royal Opera debuts and the first Mimi of Amanda Roocroft. She did not begin at all brightly and *Mi chiamano Mimi* was oddly anonymous. It could have been any soprano telling of Mimi's arduous life and the voice seemed to have put on too much weight for Puccini's frail seamstress. But parts of *Bohème* are thickly scored and Roocroft made her new substantiality tell in Act III, especially in the exchanges with Marcello. By the final act she was in command of the part, colouring her memories of times past and love that slipped away as death approaches.

She is likely to go further



Amanda Roocroft, getting into her stride as Mimi

### La Bohème Covent Garden

under Mimi's skin when her Rodolfo, Luis Lima, is in better voice. No announcement was made, but Lima, who knows this role backwards, sounded out of vocal sorts. In a young cast Lima, despite his enduringly agreeable personality and readiness to scamper about the stage, was a bohemian uncle rather than one of the lads. The Colline and

her Act II Waltz Song while Roocroft was still finding her way. She fitted in snugly alongside William Shimell's shaggy sympathetic Marcello. At the Café Momus together they came close to pushing the rest of the cast off stage. But that could change.

John Copley was back to supervise his original production, fast approaching its quarter-century. It is now a good deal livelier and bener lit than last season, although life in Act I is still murky even by the standards of those short of a few candles.

Sir Charles Mackerras had to withdraw from conducting to allow time for recovery from a shoulder operation. Christian Badea took his place, yet another debut. Once over a tough first act he showed himself a true Puccinian and, with Roocroft growing in confidence, started to wring the emotions. The prospect of a totally different team also taking the boards this week is likely to be a sharp competitive spur all round.

JOHN HIGGINS



Catrin Wyn Davies (Zerlina) and Davide Damiani (Don Giovanni) in Cardiff

## Agit-pop icon turns fatherly

THIS year's *In The City* music biz extravaganza in Dublin drew a close with a hectic itinerary that included the welcome return of Billy Bragg in a stuffy Mean Fiddler, and the following night a prestige headlining gig in the plush Olympia by local heroes Whipping Boy.

Bragg has only recently emerged from a prolonged hibernation from the music industry, forced upon him, he tells us, by appendicitis and the birth of his son.

It is clear, both from his extended monologues on the subject between songs and from the new songs themselves (such as *Brickbat*), that fatherhood had a profound effect on his world view, causing the agit-pop icon to redefine his relationship with

### POP

Billy Bragg  
Mean Fiddler  
Whipping Boy  
Olympia Theatre,  
Dublin

socialism on more personal, less ideological terms — what he calls on his single *Uffield* "a socialism of the heart".

Armed only with a guitar, classic songs and a winning sense of humour, Bragg effortlessly juggles his tripartite role as folk singer, pop star and stand-up comedian. There was a warmth engendered in the audience.

Unlike Whipping Boy, who tried to break the door down rather than use the key. Their intense, fractured melodic mas — one part grubby realism, one part unashamed romanticism — do hide a serrated beauty, and when they hit their stride (as they did on *Tripped* and the glorious *Twinkle*) it is easy to see why they have so many fans.

But despite the addition of a string section on some songs, they went through some very lacklustre patches. The workman-like band desperately needed inspiration from their leader, but Fergal McKee's flat vocals and Bono-esque ponting around was no help.

That said, the new songs sounded on first hearing to be as good as anything on the acclaimed *Heartworm* LP.

NICK KELLY

MUSIC: Innovation at the Vale of Glamorgan Festival; plus the Hallé revisited in its controversial new home

## Fresh in from the Baltic

As Cardiff Bay's dreary and aspiring wasteland continues its long wait for rebirth, its Victorian Baltic House caught an echo from far back in a former incarnation. Across the road, the Coal Exchange was reverberating with the very latest in Baltic music: the Vale of Glamorgan

Festival of Living Composers has this year turned to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, heralding London's Baltic Arts Festival next month.

With the six pianists of Piano Circus hammering away all evening on six amplified keyboards, could anyone really have told that this was music from the Baltic states? One characteristic of almost every composer I have heard has been a resolution to reject any processes which are merely cerebral or merely nostalgic, while eagerly assimilating into their own language a wide cross-fertilisation of ideas now filtering into their brave new world.

The Estonian composer Erkki-Sven Tüür is both *enfant terrible* and deeply serious, self-aware craftsman. The iconoclastic energy of his rock

band days still charges an ear which can be seduced as much by the choral writing of the country's great mentor Arvo Part as by the astringency of American minimalism. Those familiar with Tüür's new album, *Crystallization*, will have recognised the fascination with the radiation of energy from a single note, and the tension created by the collision of a polarised rhythms and pitches in his new *Transzission*, a festival commission. One high note, pulsating on a single keyboard, blurs into two, clusters into three, four until a vast cross-etching of complex rhythmic resonance is built up. It then descends in

pitch, a waterfall of register and motion, before a brisk rhythm returns the ear to 12-tone language.

Tüür's contemporary, Rein Rannap, received two performances of his new *Merging Lanes*, a rhapsodic fusion of minimalism and virtuous quasi-improvisatory writing.

The following evening, in a concert of music for string orchestra and choir in All Saints Church, Barry, Tüür's 1993 Action: *Passion: Illusion* received its UK premiere. Originally written for conductor Tonu Kaljuste and his Tallinn orchestra, its three metaculously composed movements, as intensely rhythmic

and as vigorous in their artifice as a Baroque suite, were conducted by him and played, a little uneasily, by Sinfonia 21. This London band clearly also had inadequate rehearsal time for the Latvian composer Peteris Vasks's Symphony for Strings, *Stimmen*. Yet its three continuous movements revealed the technical virtuosity and emotional integrity of this distinctive Baltic voice.

From Lithuania came Bronius Kutavicius and the UK premiere of *The Western Gates* for choir, orchestra and organ. This Stabat Mater setting is the last part of a cycle, *The Gates of Jerusalem*, and forms its apothecosis: a hymn with fragments of Lithuanian folksong lamentation introducing over quiet solo plainsong.

HILARY FINCH

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## Manchester's unraisable roof

Gerald Larner gives the Bridgewater Hall a second chance

It is fully registered. It scarcely mattered: half the desired impact will do in most cases. It is more disturbing that the great *Taba mirum*, with its eight timpanists and its brass bands, had less than its authentically sensational effect: a roof which cannot be raised by a sound like that is surely a roof too high.

While the BBC Philharmonic and the

choral voices could scarcely have played

or sung any louder, they could certainly

have extended the dynamic range at the

other end of the scale. Otherwise, it was a

most remarkable achievement on the part

of Yan Pascal Tortelier, who controlled

and inspired his assembled choral forces

with masterful effect.

The Bridgewater Hall, whatever assess-

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## ■ THEATRE

Worn down by Goethe: the RSC's staging of *Faust* fails to hold the attention



## ■ DANCE

The touring Scottish Ballet has mixed fortunes with a triple-bill called *Sweat, Baroque and Roll*

THE TIMES  
ARTS

## ■ CHOICE 1

Sir Colin Davis opens the LSO season with a world premiere  
VENUE: Tonight at the Barbican Hall



## ■ CHOICE 2

... while Sir Peter Hall's *Oedipus* staging comes to London  
VENUE: Opens tonight at the Olivier Theatre

# Too many damned scenes

**T**his is the Goethe version of *Faust*, mighty in scale, ranging to the extremes of language, sublime and coarse, at times even funny. Mussorgsky's *Song of the Flea* started here — and a punishing ordeal to sit through.

Michael Bogdanov directs, Howard Brenton provides an English version in lines of varied length, usually rhyming, but bringing no excitement at the rhyme.

The occasional phrase sings in the ear for a passing moment but dry rhetoric is soon restored. The first part lasts for about three hours, and the second continues for another three, and as each part is divided by an interval there are several occasions when members of the audience can discontinue the fatiguing experience simply by not resuming their seats.

The second quarter is the easiest to endure since it contains the story of sweet-hearted Gretchen, subtly and movingly played by Sophie Heyman. Kate Duchene (playing her friend Martha) is also always worth watching. Unfortunately Gretchen's brother Valentine comes with the package and before he dies finds time to curse and expose

her, establishing himself as the nastiest character in all dramatic literature from Aeschylus to Ayckbourn.

If nothing else, the role of Faust is an exhausting test of memory for the actor. It is a little more than this, though in Bogdanov's production not a great deal, because what Faust does, and the nature of his desires and arguments, so seldom engages the interest. Michael Feast is good as the grouchy old man at the beginning, and impressive —

hours later — when he has aged again and is careworn but still roaring defiance. With Gretchen he is an attentive and wondering lover. But for the rest, the long disputes on discontent, and his trips to kitchens, laboratories and whip-wielding witches on mountain tops is just One Damned Scene After Another.

"Do we really have to go to Ancient Greece?" asks Mephisto. I'd have said no but they depart there nonetheless. In among all these outings are reflections on sensation, renunciation and such heavy topics. But they don't register, and often the actions and arguments are so obviously cerebral that the function of certain scenes becomes impossible to grasp.

Since last year's Stratford



Good, bad and ugly: Jeffery Dench (God) meets Hugh Quarshie (Mephisto, right)

premiere the RSC production appears to have shed some of the prancing nudity. Mephisto still pants justly after the cherubs in the final scene, but this is in the original Goethe: it is what distracts him when he has Faust in his clutches. Hugh Quarshie is a supreme-

ly elegant devil, genial and sparkling (though sometimes the smile ominously freezes). The tilting mirror at the back of Chris Dyer's set gives intriguing views of the actors from their other side, but Bogdanov's jokey redemption scene is a baffling variation on

the original. Gretchen's love, God's wager, Faust's behaviour, may all present difficulties today, but if the production does not take them seriously what is the point of the enterprise?

JEREMY KINGSTON

Barbican Hall, London EC2Y 5DR. Tel: 0171-923 2250. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. Sun 3pm. Until October 5.



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## LONDON

## LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA:

This evening's hot ticket is for the opening concert of the LSO's autumn season, with Sir Colin Davis conducting Svetlanov's musical *En Saga*, followed by a new concerto written for the cellist Mstislav Rostropovich by Colin Matthews. The evening ends with the powerful rhythms and harmonies of Stravinsky's *Agon*. *Barbican Hall, Silk Street, EC2Y 5DR. Tel: 0171-923 2250. Open tonight, 7pm. Then until Sept 28, 7pm (except Sundays). Then in rep.*

**THE OEDIPUS PLAYS:** Alan Howard in the title role of *Oedipus the King* and *Oedipus at Colonus*. Peter Hall directs a cast of 120. *Lyceum Theatre, National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1. Tel: 0171-923 2250. Open tonight, 7pm. Then until Sept 28, 7pm (except Sundays). Then in rep.*

**OTHELLO:** Forty years this year the National Youth Theatre mounts a new production of Shakespeare's monumental study of star passions and violent revenge. Edward Wilson directs a cast of 24. *Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, CV37 5BB. Open tonight, 7pm. Then until Sept 28, 7pm (except Sundays). Then in rep.*

**UNCLE VANYA:** Bill Bryton's stony Chichester cast: Frances Barber, Constance Cummings, Trevor Eve, Derek Jacobi, Peggy Mount, Imogen Stubbs, with Richard Johnson in place of Alec McCowen.

## ■ BARTLETT

Red Shift is a excellent production of the Wall Street copy-clerk who one day preferred not to copy. Jonathan Holloway's production down town Edinburgh in double quick time.

*Edinburgh Festival, St Martin's Lane, W1. Tel: 0171-836 5123. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Wed and Sat, 3pm.*

**CIAO! CIAO! FOR MURDER:** With Ian McEwan's phone numbers still intact letters — and as old-age is self-evident.

*Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1. Tel: 0171-494 5070. Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm.*

## ■ JUDITH

Intense and passionate

play by the Lyceum's Jonathan Cumper.

*Lyceum Theatre, Drury Lane, WC2B 4DU. Tel: 0171-223 2223. Tue-Sun, 8pm. Sun, 6pm. Until September 22.*

## ■ MARTIN GUERRE

Boubaki/Schonberg musical brings bawdy joy to the Lyceum.

*Lyceum Theatre, Drury Lane, WC2B 4DU. Tel: 0171-474 5400. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Wed and Sat, 3pm.*

## ■ THE FLIGHT INTO EGYPT

Paloma Blanca, Paul Julian and Con O'Neill in Julian Garner's fascinating

play concerned with anti-Semitism and Troy Randall ready are getting on a bit these days.

## ■ WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?

Diana Rigg and David Suchet in Howard Da Silva's staging of Alice's most famous play. *West Clare Holman and Lloyd, 100 New Bond Street, W1. Tel: 0171-580 4401. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sun, 8pm; mat Sun, 4pm. Until October 5.*

## ■ LONG RUNNERS

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Measure for Measure (0171-474 5400)

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## LAW

- BLIND PREJUDICE 39
- LAW REPORT 21

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S TRUST

# In terror of the accused

**Frances Gibb**  
on why victims'  
rights are still  
not respected  
by the courts

Last week a woman who was left "scared, worried and sick" by a man she accuses of stalking her for four years had to confront her alleged tormentor in court when he cross-examined her for 33 minutes. Dennis Chambers, defending himself, was allowed to leave the dock and sit closer to Margaret Bent, his alleged victim. She could hardly look at him but stared straight ahead. The case was the third in recent weeks in which victims of crime have suffered in the witness box.

A Japanese student was forced to spend 12 days in the witness box, reliving two days of rape by a gang of youths. This time the cross-examination was at the hands of counsel. In a third case two weeks before, Julia Mason, another rape victim, waived her right to anonymity to protest about the way her attacker, defending himself, was allowed to spend six days questioning her.

The ordeals have prompted calls for a reform in the law to restore the ancient right of defendants to represent themselves. Judges, some say, should have discretion to insist on legal representation. But the cases also raise the wider issue of the witness box trauma. Should particularly vulnerable victims — those alleging rape, and children — be forced to endure the same open court grilling as all other defendants? Or do they deserve special treatment?

Last week Victim Support, the crime victims' charity, published a report, which was a damning indictment of the way in which courts treat child witnesses. Children forced to go to court, often in sex abuse cases, still have to wait many hours, or even days, before giving evidence and get little support for the experience. It found. Based on the experi-



Dennis Chambers, defending himself, was allowed to leave the dock and sit closer to his alleged victim

ences of 1,000 children in 26 Crown Courts, the report showed that seven years after landmark report by Judge Pigot which urged measures to ease the trauma for child witnesses, including the giving of evidence by closed-circuit TV link from another room, court practice remains patchy.

Children are not always allowed to use such links. One girl aged 11 became incoherent and distressed when she found she had to give evidence in open court. The case was dismissed. A special child-witness pack, published three years ago with the backing of the Lord Chancellor's Department, was used for only 25 per cent of children. One judge did not know what it was and tried to stop its use.

Delays, too, remain frequent. Many children are called to court hours or days before they have to give evidence, despite a Victim's Charter stating that the maximum

wait should be two hours. In one sexual assault case, two girls were called to court and sent home six times. One in three had to wait for more than four hours. Many were also called to court and then not needed — 28 per cent of children in sexual cases and 53 per cent in other cases.

Heleen Reeves, the director of the charity, blames the "sensitivity" of defence lawyers to any reform that could be seen as weakening the position of the defendant. This creates a lot of "extra difficulty" for children, she says. As a result, many cases cannot go to court because victims are too frightened, in rape and indecency cases, from being allowed to cross-examine in person.

But, lawyers point to the importance of the defendant's case being fully put, in the interests of their fundamental right to a fair trial and to avoid appeals. Graham Cooke, a barrister, says that whether the defendant is arguing "not me", or that (in rape cases) the victim consented or that the assault did not happen, close questioning of the victim is unavoidable. If consent is the issue, the defence will need to explore the distressing detail in cross-examination to identify any contradictions or improbable assertions.

Mr Cooke says: "It is simply not good enough for the defence advocate to do no more than assert that the complainant is lying and then put the defendant in the witness box to say it did not happen." But he favours a change in the law so that defendants can be prevented, in rape and indecency cases, from being allowed to cross-examine in person.

Others want further changes: the right of rape victims to give evidence via live video link and a tougher line

by judges in controlling counsel. But curbs on the defence carry a risk that the case would be quashed on appeal. Anne Rafferty, QC, the Criminal Bar Association chairman, says that knowing when to cut off cross-examination is difficult; only the defence has a grasp of the whole case. Judges are already given guidance on being alert to stressful cross-examination. This, she says, could be underlined.

Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions, admits that more — such as setting national standards for children's cases, fast-tracking of child-abuse cases and a tougher line on defence requests for adjournments — can be done without jeopardising defendants' rights. A "good practice" video is also being sent out to judges and lawyers. All, says Ms Reeves, would go some way to ensure that victims are not harmed yet further by the court process.

## Why women get a raw deal in the courts

It is a truism that our judiciary is male-dominated, particularly at senior levels. It is also a truism that this has negative consequences for women. As the chairwoman of the Association of Women Barristers said in a letter to *The Times* recently: "The consequences of this lack of women in the senior judiciary reverberate through every level of society, reinforcing the *de facto* status of women as less authoritative than men, and the perception of their experience and contribution as less valuable."

Our judges are understandably concerned that they treat everyone equally, and that individual claims of "gender-insensitive" behaviour may be attributed to misreporting by the media. The one possibility which they cannot bring themselves to contemplate is that gender inequality in our judiciary can work injustice. The notion that there is gender bias in our courts is dismissed as too terrible to be credited.

As Professor Kathleen Mahoney, of the University of Calgary's faculty of law, has said: "The idea that courts could be acting in a manner prejudicial to a specific group in society is generally rejected outright... To further complicate matters, the issue of bias is often personalised and reduced to the assertions of individual judges denying prejudice on their part or on the parts of their associates. This reaction is, in fact, inappropriate because it confuses the concepts of overt discrimination with systemic discrimination."

She says that though overt bias is relatively easy to identify and rectify, systemic bias is far more pervasive and insidious and is therefore much more difficult to eradicate.

One does not have to look far for examples of what many would regard as systemic gender bias in our courts: the industrial tribunal that refuses to accept that pornographic pin-ups in the workplace constitute unequal treatment; the appellate courts that jib at the idea that pregnancy dismissal might constitute sex discrimination; the Family Division that has authorised the use of force to impose obstetric interventions (such as forceps delivery, an induced birth and a Caesarean birth) on unconsenting pregnant women, but, in contrast, has protected a man's right to refuse amputation of a gangrenous limb (although the patient was a paranoid schizophrenic in Broadmoor, and refusal could have caused death); the plummeting conviction rate for rape trials (down from 24 per cent in 1985 to 8 per cent in 1994); and the difficulty that victims of domestic violence face in obtaining an effective remedy.

No one would think that, in such cases,

judges are seeking to disadvantage women; yet, women undoubtedly are disadvantaged. Judges can sometimes be bedevilled by sexual stereotypes and misconceptions about women, and sometimes by uncertainty about what sexual equality means. In the recent House of Lords case *Webb v EMO Cargo*, in which it was found that it was unlawful to dismiss on grounds of pregnancy, a senior judge compared the position of the pregnant employee to the man selected to play cricket for England, despite the absurdity of that comparison.

Recent steps taken by the Judicial Studies Board, which is in charge of judges' training, to propose a module in "gender awareness" within a "human awareness" training programme for judges, may provide a way forward. It need hardly be said that such a programme has to be properly resourced and supported by senior judges in order to be effective. Nor should this sort of programme be viewed as a cosmetic addition to other forms of training. It concerns fundamental goals: the elimination of bias in the courtroom, equality before the law and access to justice for more than half the population.

Again, the Canadians may assist. Professor Mahoney tells us that the Western Judicial Education Centre has, since 1988, been organising continuing education programmes for judges from western and northwestern Canada, focusing specifically on delivery of justice to aboriginal people, gender equality in judicial decision-making and racial, ethnic and cultural equity.

One gender-training programme in 1991 took two days and, she says, involved three approaches: exploring the principles of equality in substantive law (which, if applied here, might include the jurisprudence of the European Convention on Human Rights), investigating the systemic social and economic consequences of sex discrimination, especially in terms of violence and poverty, and an examination of the consequences that individuals experience as a result of bias in the courts (such as rape victims and battered victims). Other topics included sexist language and the credibility of men as a group compared with women.

If the Judicial Studies Board could develop something along these lines, it would be an important development in promoting access to justice for women.

● The writer is a practising barrister.

From International Strategies to Implement Equal Rights for Women: Overcoming Gender Bias in the Courts, University of Pennsylvania Human Rights Book Series.

## What are Labour's law plans?

The Bar has put Labour's policies for the legal system at the top of the agenda of its conference this year with a keynote speech by Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Shadow Lord Chancellor. Barristers will also have their first chance to grill the shadow Lord Chancellor at the one-day conference on September 28, which has Cherie Booth, QC, wife of the Labour leader, as vice-chairman of its organising board. Lord Irvine is taking part in an open forum at which other panellists include Lord Justice Rose, chairman of the Criminal Justice Consultative Council.

Stephen Hockman, QC, the conference chairman, said the programme was very much geared to the concerns of practitioners — which included Labour's policies. "It is important that the Bar does not support one political

party or another," he said. "But as we approach a general election, it seemed obvious to ask Lord Irvine to come."

Criminal justice reforms and the Government's sentencing proposals will be main topics. Roy Amit, QC, is talking on disclosure, Anthony Arding, QC, on the right to silence and Anne Owers of Justice on the new Criminal Cases Review Authority.

Two other key sessions are on human rights law and the European Convention on Human Rights, in which Sir Ivan Lawrence, QC, and Home Affairs Select Committee chairman, will spar with Geoffrey Robertson, QC. Sir Richard Scott, the Vice-Chancellor, will chair a workshop on devolving commercial and chancery work. Barristers' clerks will hold a question-and-answer session on improving services to clients, and Mr

Justice Bell will chair a personal injuries and professional negligence session, in which a consultant surgeon, using X-rays and models of back injuries, will give a medical-style lecture. The day, at the Whitbread Brewery, City, ends with a formal dinner. Guest speaker will be Clive Anderson.

● For details of the conference, and/or dinner, sponsored by The Times, contact Blair Communications, 0171-722 931. Discounts for students, three barristers from one set of chambers and those outside London.

● The new Chambers & Partners' Directory of the Legal Profession is published this week.

The 1,600-page guide contains information on highly rated solicitors from small firms and large and barristers in 60 areas of law, region by region, as well as every barrister in practice. The guide profiles 3,800 solicitors and 2,100 barristers. Details: Chambers, 0171-608 2260.

to, it was "inevitable" that advice centres would refuse to do legal aid work.

### Reform opposed

LAST week a coalition made up of the Law Society and nine main advice groups launched a campaign of opposition to those legal aid reforms likely to go ahead because they do not need legislation.

The groups, including the Legal Action Group, Child Poverty Action Group and Shelter, say that the plans would undermine the ability of those on low incomes to enforce their rights.

Advise agencies say they will boycott the reforms if necessary. Steve Johnson, for the Federation of Independent Advice Centres, said agencies would not want to means-test people or collect proposed contributions towards legal fees. If they had

SCRIVENOR

### STEUART & FRANCIS

Council. Her supporters will be hoping that this autumn she will finally try to become the first woman Bar leader by standing for the chairmanship, the traditional route to chairman.

To judge by her acerbic criticisms of ministers in the CBA newsletter, she would make a formidable leader.



Anne Rafferty, QC, resisting

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NatWest Markets is the worldwide corporate and investment banking arm of NatWest Group, one of the largest and best capitalised banking groups in the world. It is a global institution employing over 7,000 staff in 55 different offices across 25 countries.

Due to the continued expansion of their client base, there are now opportunities for ambitious young professionals to join the corporate finance team of 15 in the North of England. The region is of strategic importance to NatWest Markets whose objective is to establish itself as the pre-eminent provider of financial advice, products and services in the North.

Based in Leeds, Executives will work locally in conjunction

with the senior team in executing a wide range of transactions, involving both listed and unlisted companies, in addition to developing business initiatives in the region. As such, these positions offer a challenging and growing environment with opportunities for substantial career development and progression.

The successful candidates will be ACAs or Solicitors with 1-4 years post qualification experience. The candidates will be resilient, dynamic professionals who are able to deal with people at all levels of seniority within the local and national business community. An affinity for client development and service, combined with exceptional commercial and interpersonal skills, will be a pre-requisite to success.

Interviews will be held in Leeds and London.

Interested candidates should send a detailed curriculum vitae to Peter Thompson, Michael Page Legal, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH, tel 0171 269 2239, fax 0171 831 6662.

NATWEST MARKETS

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## Global Transaction Management

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Our transaction management team in London routinely deals with transactions across the full range of investment banking products including Debt and Equity Capital Markets, Derivatives and Asset Finance.

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**Capital Markets**

Ideally you should have at least two years' experience of Debt and/or Equity Capital Markets, either within another leading transaction management group or a leading law firm. Fluency in any European language would be an advantage. In addition, this appointment is likely to involve some travel.

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Probably at least two years' qualified, you must have some Capital Markets experience and some exposure to and experience of repackaging securities using special purpose vehicles.

**Derivatives**

You will have around three years' Derivatives and Banking or Capital Markets experience and should have the personality to work closely with front-office personnel advising on the structuring of derivative products whilst regulating the incidence of legal risk.

These appointments are only the latest stage in a sustained programme of growth. Continuing expansion means that the scope for personal and professional development is exceptionally good.

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**IN-HOUSE  
LEGAL**

**CHAMBERS****INDUSTRY & BANKING Sonya Rayner**

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SolBar with approx 4 yrs' ppe and exp of working in the hi-tech industry to join well-known computer co as sole lawyer for one of its businesses. Must enjoy being autonomous as well as being part of a larger legal dept and enjoy international travel.

**Fluent French: West London**  
SolBar with 3-4 yrs' comm exp to join legal dept of int'l industrial services co. Work will focus on comm contracts. Must be bilingual French/English. Would also suit lawyers quadri in French speaking countries.

**Hi-tech: South East**  
SolBar with c.2 yrs' exp to join established legal dept of well-known hi-tech co. Work will be broad general comm. Must have commercial acumen.

**PRIVATE PRACTICE** London: David Woolfson, Simon Anderson  
South: Harriet Stow North & Midlands: Suki Bahra

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We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

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Well-known City firm with strong media practice seeks for par or sec assistant, ideally with some following, to join growing multimedia group. Superb client base.

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No competition for partnership at one of the best-regarded medium-sized firms. 4-5 yr qual solc sought to advise on broad range of corp transactions. To £50,000.

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**Corporate: City**  
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**Commercial Lawyer: Amsterdam**  
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Opportunity for ambitious young commercial lawyer to join dynamic legal department of successful international FMCG company. Good career prospects.

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The successful applications will be rewarded with a competitive remuneration package including company car, pension, private medical and life assurance cover. To apply please send your C.V. and a covering letter to Mark Molloy, Senior HR Manager, Gartmore Investment Management plc, 16-18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ.

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### SINGAPORE BASED

employment law and working as part of the management team on strategic issues.

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## Commercial Lawyer

### Glasgow

ScottishPower is the UK's leading utility, following the successful acquisitions of Manweb in 1995 and Southern Water in August of this year, the group has 3 million customers, 14,000 employees and a turnover in excess of £3 billion.

The ScottishPower group supplies electricity, gas, water, telecoms, specialist technologies and electrical contracting expertise. In addition, it is one of the UK's biggest electrical retailers. It also means that we can offer an unmatched commercial law career - where you will work closely with the group Legal Director on a wide spectrum of commercial and corporate issues. The role as legal advisor and personal assistant to the group Legal Director is within our Law and Risk Management team, and to succeed you should have a minimum of 2 years' post-qualification experience - gained within either a

leading private practice or the Corporate and Commercial department of a blue chip company. Ideally, you should have a Scottish legal qualification and a knowledge of the regulatory framework applicable to privatised industries, although we are happy to consider your application should you not meet these criteria. You will certainly need to be a clear, confident communicator, and have the self-motivation to become an integral member of this newly formed team.

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Brian Glanville recalls the moment that announced the arrival of a football genius

# The goal that put the world at Pele's feet



Svensson, the Sweden goalkeeper, dives in vain as Pelé, with three defenders in close proximity, scores the first of his two goals for Brazil in the 1958 World Cup final

For precocity, courage, conception and execution, I would choose the first of Pelé's two goals for Brazil in the World Cup final of 1958 against Sweden in Stockholm.

On a rainy afternoon, they had gone behind to a very early goal when Nils Liedholm, the veteran Swede inside left, had picked his way through their penalty area and scored. George Raynor, the little Yorkshireman who was coaching Sweden, had forecast that, if the Brazilians went a goal down, "they'll panic all over the show". They did not. Two devastating runs down the right by Garrincha, two crosses from the byline hit home by Vava, and Brazil were in the lead.

It was in the second half that Pelé so spectacularly scored their third. This is how he described it himself: "It was Nilson Santos (the Brazil left back), in our early game against Austria, who decided to attack rather than always defend, and made our second goal, a rare thing for defenders in a World Cup game. And now, when he was in Sweden's half, he kicked a long, high ball towards those of us in the goal area.

"I stopped it on my thigh, kicked it in the air, whirled and kicked it towards the goal as it came down. Svensson (the Sweden goalkeeper) made a valiant effort to block the ball, but it was to his right and it happened too fast for him to adjust. He was stretched out on the ground, his arms outstretched as the ball went into the net."

"I was screaming GOOOAAALLL!! and running and jumping in the air, but with a release of unbearable tension, and then I was suffocated by my teammates swarming all over me, seemingly trying to break my back, jumping on me from as far away as they could leap, wrapping their arms around my throat, half strangling me. But I didn't mind, I didn't even feel it. That extra insurance goal made victory certain."

Victory, as it transpired, by five goals to two. Pelé scoring another superb goal — Brazil's fifth — when he soared high above the Swedish defence to head in Zagallo's centre

from the left. Was there nothing this amazing prodigy could not do?

That first goal illustrated so many of his virtues: his acrobatic skills, his sublime technique, his opportunism, his endless ability to make goals out of nothing and, not least, his bravery — his capacity to cut himself off in a kind of cocoon of nonchalance, unperturbed by the immensity of harm.

The Sweden defence that hovered around him as he hooked the ball over his head included a formidable opponent in Parling, the hefty, fair-haired left half nicknamed, for good reason, "The Iron Stove". In Gothenburg, Parling had committed so harsh a challenge on the West German captain, Fritz Walter, that Walter had had to retire to bed, and played no part in the ensuing third-place match. Pelé was impervious to such matters. The chance of a goal would always find him fearless.

He does not count either of those goals as the most important he has scored, nor that other mighty header, leaping high, above Taricchio Burnigh, with which, 12 long years later, he headed in another left-wing cross, from Rivelino, in another World Cup final, against Italy in Mexico City. It was Brazil's first against an Italy team that they

eventually crushed 4-1. Pelé laying on the last two goals with calibrated passes to the right.

The goal that he says was his most significant is one I did not see, though I was there. I had turned in the Gothenburg press box, during the 1958 quarter-final match between Brazil and Wales, to answer another journalist. Looking round again, I saw the Brazilians piling joyously on top of Pelé and one another in the Wales goalmouth.

Pelé had just won them the match with what, however important, was one of the scrappiest goals he ever scored. It was a shot that Jack Kelsey, the heroic Wales goalkeeper, would surely have saved had it not struck the foot of Stuart Williams, the right back, and changed direction.

Almost as memorable were the two goals that Pelé did not quite score in Guadalajara in the early phases of the 1970 World Cup. Noticing that the Czech goalkeeper, Viktor, had a habit of spraying off his line, Pelé, receiving the ball at a kick-off, shot immediately from the centre circle. The ball arced over Viktor's head, but bounced just outside the post.

Another almost imperceptible attempt came against Uruguay. As Mazurkiewicz, the Uruguay goal-

keeper, advanced, Pelé deceived him with a dummy, ran round him, and then shot fractionally wide of the far post.

Since then, two other, lesser players have succeeded in doing what Pelé so nearly did against the Czechs, and I saw both those goals. One, scored by Nayim, won the European Cup Winners' Cup final of 1995 for Real Zaragoza against Arsenal in Paris — an incredible

shot from far out near the right-hand touchline that flew over the head of David Seaman, the Arsenal goalkeeper, and into the goal. Astonishing, too, was the goal that young David Beckham got for Manchester United this very season against Wimbledon, striking right-footed, from just inside his own half, above the stranded goalkeeper, Sullivan.

Two of Diego Maradona's goals in the Azteca Stadium in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico must rival all those goals in their quite different ways. They were those he scored against England and, in the subsequent match, against Belgium. On each occasion — low-centred, thick-thighed, left-footed, electrically fast — he brought off the most outstanding slalom, leaving man after man behind with a tap, a swerve, a sport, until at last, in each case, he consummated the solo run with a decisive shot.

The goal against England came soon after Maradona had scored with what he notoriously called "The Hand of God", stretching up a fist, when Hodge miskicked the ball into the air, to guide the ball past Peter Shilton. An Italian journalist remarked that the England defence had still been in a state of shock, "like a man who has just had his wallet stolen", but there was no such excuse for the Belgians.

Great goals, though, are not always the fruit of individual virtuosity. Football is a team game, and some of the finest goals have been collective efforts, or at least the work of a duo rather than a single star.

Ferenc Puskás, of Hungary, and Alfredo Di Stefano, of Argentina,

are two of the finest players of their generation, and wound up playing together for Real Madrid in their halcyon days. I saw them get seven goals between them — four for Puskás, three for Di Stefano — in the fabled European Cup final of 1960 at Hampden Park, when Eintracht Frankfurt were beaten 7-3.

Yet the goal that remains in my mind was the one that they engineered in the first half of the 1962 European Cup final in Amsterdam, against Benfica, a match that Benfica eventually won. Di Stefano's through pass was exquisitely timed. Puskás "The Galloping Major", trotted rather than galloped onto it, tubby but irresistible, and went half the length of the field before his left foot did the ultimate damage. The game over, he took off his jersey and anointed his heir: Eusebio, who had twice scored for Benfica with a right foot as ferocious as Puskás's left.



Simon Barlow savours one of England's finest goals

## ICE HOCKEY

### Basingstoke receive cause for optimism

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

AS EXPECTED, the eight Superleague teams qualified for the knockout stage of the Benson and Hedges Cup and, in the quarter-finals, Ayr Scottish Eagles will play Manchester Storm, Sheffield Steelers will play Newcastle Cobras, Cardiff Devils will play Nottingham Panthers and Basingstoke Bison will play Bracknell Bees.

The four group-winners were kept apart in the draw, but in only one case were two teams from the same group drawn together and, as Basingstoke, have already beaten Bracknell twice, they must be fancied to go through to the last eight.

There was one surprise in the final round of group games, however: Nottingham Panthers were held 7-7 by Solihull Blaze, of the premier division. Ashley Tait scored for the Panthers in the first minute but they found penalty trouble and conceded two power-play goals in falling behind 3-1 by the end of the first period.

Solihull led 6-3 at the end of

the second, but four goals in 6½ minutes saw the Panthers lead 7-6, only for Les Milne to tie the game with less than five minutes remaining.

There was an unfortunate incident midway through the game when Derek Laxdal of the Panthers was ejected by the referee. He was attacked by three women spectators while on his way to the dressing-room. Security men quickly dealt with the incident and the women were escorted from the rink.

Ayr Scottish Eagles dropped their first point despite leading 3-0 early in the second period, Petri Roulainen scoring with less than seven minutes remaining to earn Newcastle Cobras a point. Cardiff and Basingstoke maintained their 100 per cent records, Devils inflicting a first home defeat of the season on Manchester Storm.

**BENSON AND HEDGES CUP:** Quarter-final draw: Ayr Scottish Eagles v Manchester Storm; Sheffield Steelers v Newcastle Cobras; Cardiff Devils v Nottingham Panthers; Basingstoke Bison v Bracknell Bees. CI Matches to be played on September 26-29 and October 5-6.

## FOOTBALL

### Mabbutt resigned to missing rest of season

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

GARY MABBUTT, the Tottenham Hotspur captain, confirmed yesterday that he will not play again for the rest of the season. Mabbutt, 35, broke his left leg in Tottenham's opening match against Blackburn Rovers and had hoped to be back in action by Christmas. However, after undergoing surgery this week to have a steel rod put into his leg, he admitted that his comeback would have to be postponed until next summer.

The bone was badly smashed and I will have this rot for about six months," he said. "By the time I get my fitness back, it will be the end of the season, so my target now is to be fit for the start of next season."

Struggling Southampton expect to complete the transfer of Paolo Alves, the Portugal striker, from Sporting Lisbon by next week for a club record fee of £15 million. Graeme Souness, the Southampton manager, said: "Alves is a proven goalscorer and, if he signs, he will be the first of several new players."

Preston North End broke their transfer record yesterday to sign Alan Reeves, the Wimbledon defender, for £350,000.

Rotherham United appointed Danny Bergara as their manager yesterday, just hours after sacking the joint management team of Archie Gemmill and John McGovern.

The first task facing Uruguay-born Bergara, the former Stockport County manager and Sheffield United coach, is to lift Rotherham off the bottom of the Nationwide League second division.

Hearts have asked the Scottish Football Association to investigate the handling of their match against Rangers at Ibrox on Saturday, when four Hearts players were sent off by Gerry Evans, the referee. In a statement, the club said: "There were many aspects surrounding the handling of the game which caused us great concern."

Steve Archibald, who guided East Fife to promotion from the Bell's League second division last season, has been sacked by the club.

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT  
Dealer South Game all IMPs

♦10954 ♦53 ♦K10 ♦K9843  
J7 ♦KJ10862 ♦9853 ♦8742 ♦78  
W-E 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1  
♦A K ♦A Q 7 ♦A Q J ♦A Q J 10 2  
N-E 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1  
S-E 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1  
5 4 3 2 1  
Contract: Six No-trumps by South. Lead: six of diamonds

The bidding was not impressive. South's first two bids are reasonable enough but North should have proceeded with Four Clubs rather than 4 NT — after all a suit contract was quite likely to be better. Even after North's raise to 4 NT, South should have saved the day by trying Six Clubs rather than 6 NT. A club fit was likely to generate more tricks than no-trumps. As you can see, Seven Clubs is cold while 6 NT has only 11 top tricks.

Declarer won the diamond lead with the jack. Playing on spades now would have enabled him to develop the twelfth trick in that suit, but reasonably enough he played off all his club winners immediately. East threw a spade and a diamond; then he misguidedly threw the nine of hearts, to show his partner an even number.

Next, declarer cashed his top spades. By this time he did not have the entries to take advantage of the fall of the jack. However, his last five cards were A Q of hearts and A Q of diamonds.

If West kept three diamonds and two hearts declarer would play ace and another heart if West kept two diamonds and three hearts; declarer would cash his diamonds and play a low heart to endplay West.

Had East kept his nine of hearts, declarer could not have cashed with a low heart, as East still had a winning spade (West had kept J 8 of hearts).

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

### Kamsky's win

Although Fide championship challenger Gata Kamsky failed to win the Donner Memorial in Amsterdam, he still produced some fine chess, as in the following dynamic demolition of the normally solid grandmaster Valery Salov. White's sacrifice on move 17 exploited the traditional weakness of Black's pawn at 17.

The official English team for the chess Olympiad, a biennial world team championship for national sides, is: Nigel Short, Michael Adams, Jon Speelman, Matthew Sadler, Julian Hodgson and Stuart Conquest. England have previously won silver and bronze medals and are now one of the favourites.

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**Chinese chess** As part of my series on chess in China, to coincide with The Times' Mysteries of Ancient China exhibition at the British Museum, I continue today with details about the greatest champion in China's own version of chess. Hu Rong Hua won the Xiang Qi (Chinese chess) championship for the first time in 1980 aged 15, the youngest champion in that mind sport. In 1985, at the age of 40, he added the record for the oldest champion too.

The greatest player of Chinese chess of all time, Hu logged an unprecedented sequence of ten consecutive victories in the championship during his dominant years. The best Chinese chess players come from mainland China, and the Chinese national championship may safely be considered equivalent to the world championship.

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□ Robert Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

**Diagram of final position**

Diagram of final position





CRICKET: DEVASTATING SPELL OF FAST BOWLING ENSURES KENT'S CHALLENGE WILL GO TO THE LAST

# McCague quickens pulse of title pursuers

By PAT GIBSON

**CANTERBURY** (final day of four): Kent (24pts) beat Hampshire (5) by 148 runs

THE St Lawrence Ground has never seen anything quite like it. Martin McCague pulled his shirt over his head like an Italian footballer who had just scored a goal, and far from censuring him, Robin Baker White president of Kent and a former high sheriff of the county to boot, turned to the middle to applaud him from the field.

Even E. W. Swanton seemed to turn a blind eye to such lack of decorum on the hallowed turf after McCague had taken five wickets for three runs in 17 balls, including a hat-trick, to keep alive Kent's hopes of winning the county championship with what his captain, Steve Marsh, described as "prob-

McCague had started the day well enough by claiming Laney leg-before in his third over, but he looked as innocuous as the rest of the Kent bowlers when White and Whitaker were sharing a second-wicket partnership of 118 in 36 overs.

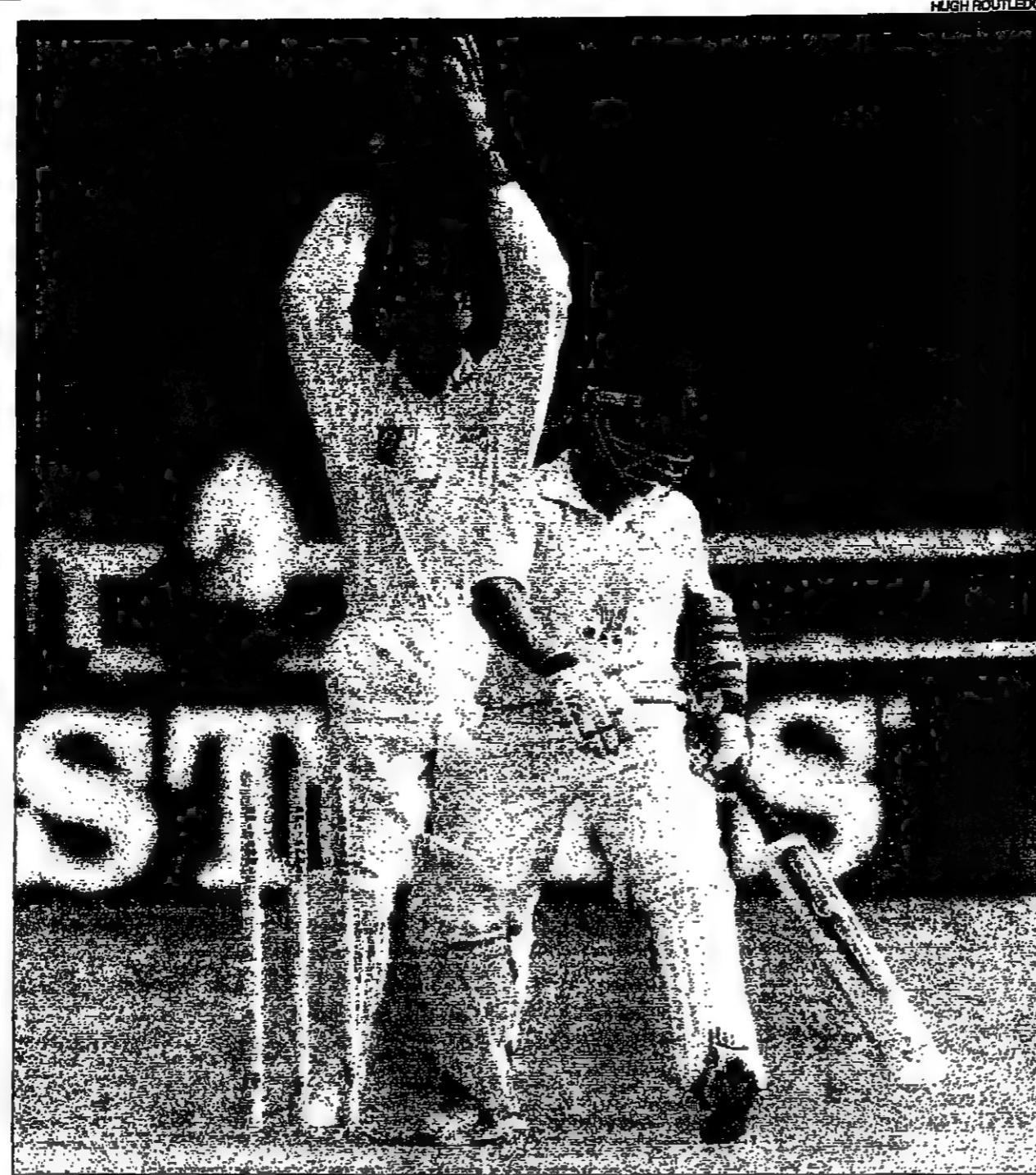
Not so long ago, McCague might have thrown in the towel, but he has learnt from the bitter experience of being banished from the England team that fast bowlers have to keep going and now he has summoned up fresh reserves of energy to change the course of the match, and, perhaps, even at this late stage, the championship.

First he beat Whitaker for pace after the left-hander had batted for almost 2½ hours for his 53 and then he had Smith, whose wicket Kent wanted most, caught behind. In his next over, McCague found the perfect length to induce Kent and Aymes to edge to second and first slip respectively and finally he put the ball in the blockhole to pin Mascalheras leg-before and complete Kent's second hat-trick of the match.

Such feats are old hat to Headley, who did it for the third time this season in Hampshire's first innings, but it was not him but Fleming who conducted the final rites. He could not manage three in a row but he did his best, removing White, who had batted through 46 overs for his 66, Maru and Bovill in the space of six balls.

Kent had won an incredible victory that leaves them 15 points behind the leaders as they go into their final match against Gloucestershire at Bristol on Thursday. "All we can do now is win our game and hope that Middlesex can stop Leicestershire from winning their and Surrey do not take maximum points," Marsh said. "I remember Middlesex doing it to us at Lord's in 1988, when we lost the championship by a point, so maybe they can do us a favour this time."

As for McCague, who has taken 72 wickets this season, Marsh said: "He has had his problems in the past but to come back with the vigour and will to succeed that he has shown and still not even been mentioned for any of the England tours is quite staggering. I feel very sorry for him."



Stewart, of Surrey, rejoices as Cottey, of Glamorgan, is bowled by Shahid at Cardiff yesterday. Report: page 48

## Essex yield to Salisbury's spin

By IVO TENNANT

**CHELMSFORD** (final day of four): Sussex beat Essex (5) by 137 runs**SUSSEX**: First Innings: 147; Wiles 122, 10 D. K. Lathbury, 9 N. L. Lee, 52 Second Innings:

N. J. Lathbury c Such &amp; B. Marsh 44

C. W. J. Alvey c Hussain b Law 74

K. G. Ramprakash b Law 37

P. C. L. Hoddle c Hussain b Law 0

K. Neesham c Cowan b Law 145

V. C. Drakes not out 145

D. R. K. Salterby c Such &amp; B. Marsh 6

D. R. Phillips not out 0

N. C. Phillips not out 40

Total 299

Balls 616

Umpires: R. J. Kirby 4 for 94

Total 417

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-77, 2-154, 3-165,

4-169, 5-281, 6-282, 7-299, 8-327

BOWLING: Cowan 13-5-94-8, Such 49-11-149-4, Bish 13-1-35-0, Irani 5-2-17-4, Grayson 3-12-0, Law 22-4-112-2, Lee 1-0-0

Lahiri: First Innings 260 (3) Gooch 82, S. G. Law 44, R. J. Kirby 4 for 94

Second Innings:

G. A. Gooch c Such &amp; B. Marsh 41

A. P. Grayson c Moors &amp; B. Marsh 29

N. H. Hussain c Morris &amp; B. Marsh 35

S. G. Law c Such &amp; B. Marsh 14

P. C. L. Hoddle c Phillips 0

T. R. Phillips c Such &amp; B. Marsh 59

M. C. Lathbury c Such &amp; B. Marsh 16

P. M. Such not out 9

S. J. W. Andrew c Greenhalgh &amp; B. Marsh 0

Extras (b 13, lb 1, w 1, nb 16) 31

Total 268

Balls 416

Umpires: A. H. Howe and A. G. T. Whitehead

Kent v Hampshire

**CANTERBURY** (final day of four): Kent (24pts) beat Hampshire (5) by 148 runs**KENT**: First Innings: 145 (N. J. Lane 130, C. L. Hoddle 84, T. R. Wiles 79, M. A. Edman 74; D. A. Macrae 4 for 104, O. A. Macrae 4 for 111)

Second Innings: 211 (S. A. March 56, S. J. Brewster 4 for 75)

**HAMPSHIRE**: First Innings: 168 (N. J. Lane 108, F. A. Smith 60, S. A. March 52, D. W. Hadley 5 for 83, E. A. Smith 4 for 73)

Second Innings:

G. W. White c Hooper b Fleming 65

J. S. Larby c Hooper b Fleming 54

P. R. Whicker b McCague 53

R. A. Smith c March b McCague 3

D. A. Macrae c Hooper b McCague 3

D. A. Macrae c Hooper b McCague 1

R. J. Maru b Fleming 1

J. N. Bowls b Fleming 0

Total 272

Balls 460

Umpires: H. D. Bird and K. J. Lyons

Northamptonshire v Lancashire

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE** (final day of four): Northamptonshire (24pts) beat Lancashire (7) by nine wickets**LANCASHIRE**: First Innings: 369 (H. E. R. Gidley 104, D. A. Macrae 4 for 73)

Second Innings:

J. E. P. Gallen b Hughes 65

J. S. Larby c Hooper b Hughes 54

P. R. Whicker b McCague 53

R. A. Smith c March b McCague 3

D. A. Macrae c Hooper b McCague 3

D. A. Macrae c Hooper b McCague 1

R. J. Maru b Fleming 1

J. N. Bowls b Fleming 0

Total 272

Balls 460

Umpires: H. D. Bird and K. J. Lyons

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Qg7+! Rg7 2. Rg7- Rg7 3. Ng7- Kh8 4. Nxg7 mate

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1. Qg7+! Rg7 2. Rg7- Rg7 3. Ng7- Kh8 4. Nxg7 mate

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

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# That's life: there's no getting away from it

**N**o man is an island but uncommon numbers of men would live on one given half a chance. I have never understood the attraction of some offshore outpost from which civilisation is a distant glow in the sky; for me, remoteness is an occasional indulgence, not a full-time job.

So I approached last night's *Cutting Edge: Paradise Island* (Channel 4) with a sense of dread. Here, on the face of it, was another documentary about people who had deluded themselves that the *perfect life* was a place, rather than a state of mind. Au contraire. This was a fascinating documentary with elements of Gothic drama, in which the apparently normal inexorably unfolded into a strange tale with dark undertones.

A seven-line classified advertisement placed in *The Sunday Times* two years ago by Tony and Lyn Craig invited people willing to contribute £150,000 to join them in

establishing a community on a tropical island. There were more than 500 replies.

Among them were Su and Chris Bradley, she a designer, he an accountant. Early in the programme Chris Bradley said something that went to the heart of the fallacy which afflicts potential escapers: "The essence of the whole thing was the breakdown of law and order. We're in a community now where the greatest business opportunity for the entrepreneur must be considered crime."

This is, to put it more or less, I qualify the judgment because of what was to happen later, but Bradley's colourful hyperbole is typical among people who regard "society" as being in disarray, but, apparently do not see themselves as part of society: everything is awful, but don't look at me.

Tony Craig had identified a suitable island and set about buying it. It was called San José

and it was off the coast of Panama, that famed redoubt of civilised values and tranquillity. While Craig negotiated, mobs roamed the streets of Panama City and the military beat them. Oh well, perhaps San José was a long way off the coast of Panama.

**B**ack in Britain, figurative gunfire could be heard. This was Bradley and others in the scheme, wondering why everything was taking so long. The putative settlers were beginning to sound like a Tory Cabinet debating the common currency.

At which point, all was undone. Nothing is better designed to disturb the harmony around the family pool than a former wife surfacing at the deep end, in full view of the cameras. Tony Craig's former wife appeared, to make a devastating opening remark: "He can charm the birds out of the trees and I'm one of them."

## REVIEW



Peter Barnard

You felt there was more where that came from. The former wife claimed that Tony had made his money out of shoplifting. The record showed a conviction against Craig for shoplifting and assault. There was also a daughter from that marriage. Again, the record showed that Craig had been accused on three charges relating to alleged sexual abuse of the daughter, but was found not guilty.

I could not deduce from the somewhat muddled presentation of these events whether the plan to settle in San José fell apart because of these developments or had already failed apart because of general discontent among the other people involved. Whatever the reason, the scheme came to naught. I suspect that is just as well.

The best hospital drama returned for a new series last night: what a pity it is not British. *Chicago Hope* (BBC1) fair crackles along in both words and pictures; the *NYPD Blue* of medicine. About five story lines are running at once and I can scarce recall one of them. But what the heck: *Chicago Hope* is all style and good writing, of which there is little enough. Not that gobbledegook is absent. "Get a head CT scan and let's do an MRI from the front of it." By God, what a good idea: should I bring a camera or a pair of scissors? But there is pathos, bathos, sheer wit

and utter chaos, plus some pretension and an occasionally overcooked layer of angst.

**T**here is also, rare thing, a male friendship between two doctors, Jeffrey Geiger (Mandy Patinkin) and Aaron Shultz (Adam Arkin). The good and believable thing is that neither judges the other. Friendship is accepting, not analysing, and this is insufficiently understood in television scripts.

When Geiger and Shultz get on each other's nerves they express the frustration obliquely and respond through wit. "Do you always answer a question with a question?" "Does that bother you?" I like *Chicago Hope*. A real hospital could not function like this, but *Chicago Hope* still feels like a real hospital.

And finally to *Little Killers: A Short Hectic Life* (Channel 4), a

repeated programme that Michael Caine will want to memorise for his "not a lot of people know that" act at parties. Over to you, Michael:

"Did you know that the water shrew, although no bigger than a credit card, eats half its own body weight every 24 hours? And did you know that that's the equivalent of humans eating 30 three-course meals every day? Err, and another thing, the water shrew is a very aggressive animal, but so would you be if you were liable to die if you didn't eat for an hour."

Thank you, Michael, you seem to have covered most of the things I have learnt about the water shrew. Oh, except that it is active by day and by night. And it twitters, so that whereas we might think we are listening to a bird, we are in fact listening to a water shrew. Not a lot of people know that, either.

• Matthew Bond is away

6.00am Business Breakfast (7.225)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (82104)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (8457901)

9.20 Style Challenge (s) (1651415)

9.45 Kilroy (s) (1162901)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (81389)

11.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (4451833)

11.05 Son of the Morning Star. The first of a

two-part dramatisation of the true story of General George Armstrong Custer. With Gary Cole (r) (Ceefax) (s). Includes News at 12.00 (36763543)

12.45pm Blooming Loveli (r) (17428271)

1.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (32881)

1.30 Regional News and weather (4104611)

1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (32472630)

2.00 Call My Bluff (s) (6047213) 2.35 Turnabout (s) (1678901) 3.00 The Terrace (s) (3949)

3.30 Moonin (8967435) 3.50 Little Mouse on the Prairie (Ceefax) (8961291) 4.15 The All New Poppy Show (r) (Ceefax) (747291) 4.35 Grange Hill (r) (Ceefax) (s) (4697678) 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (770494) 5.10 Sykes Grove (r) (Ceefax) (2483253)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Teletext) (376678)

6.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (3833)

6.30 Regional news magazines (185)

7.00 Big Break — Trick Shot Special. Jim Davidson and John Virgo introduce the last in the current series of trick-shot snooker fun (r) (Ceefax) (s) (8830)

7.30 EastEnders. Cindy sets in motion her plan to leave Ian. Peggy is infuriated by the situation between Grant and Tiffany (Ceefax) (s) (3965)

8.00 999 Lifesavers. Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris introduce a series of extraordinary true stories of courage and bravery (Ceefax) (s) (4578)

8.30 Birds of a Feather. Sit-com starring Pauline Quirke, Linda Robson and Lesley Joseph (r) (Ceefax) (3165)

9.00 News: regional news and weather (Ceefax) (7123)

9.30 After the Break: The Seven Deadly Sins. Patrick Kelly presents a compilation of 30 years of hilarious commercial clips from around the world (Ceefax) (s) (31456)

10.00 Crimewatch File: The Ice Man. The extraordinary story of Sussex Police's investigation into the murders of Harry and Nicola Fuller (Ceefax) (s) (579123)

10.50 FILM: Missing Pieces (1991), with Robert Wahl, Lauren Hutton and Bob Gunton. A writer discovers that he will inherit a fortune from his foster father, but only if he can unravel a series of strange puzzles. Directed by Leonard B. Stenberg (7605-197). N.B.: Sportnight Special

11.30 FILM: Missing Pieces 1.00am

FILM: Kidz 2.30pm Weather

12.20 FILM: Kidz (1978) with Kim Baker, Malachy McCourt and Chet Davies. When a gambler finds himself in debt, the group of boys he coaches in soccer decide to come to his aid without his knowledge. Directed by Sean S. Cunningham (3595418)

1.50-1.55am Weather (7610128)

Videoplus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Videoplus+ codes, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a Videoplus+ handset. Tap in the Videoplus+ code, then the programme number you want to record. Videoplus+ ("PlusCode") and Video Programmes are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

6.00am Open University: Chemistry (2188901) 6.25 Social Problems and Social Welfare (2107303) 6.50 Clean Getaway (2192099)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (8579630)

7.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks (982193)

7.55 Blue Peter (r) (Ceefax) (2080456)

8.20 Fireman Sam (r) (8974123) 8.35 Lassie (r) (2442830) 9.00 Standard Grade Design (8455473) 9.20 The RE Collection (3451497) 9.45 Watch (8571814) 10.00 Playdays (s) (89745)

10.30 Come Outside (s) (5622388)

10.45 Science Zone — People (s) (1587253) 11.06 Space Ark (s) (4449088) 11.15 Clementine (s) (5570307) 11.30 GNVQ TV (6363) 12.00 See Hear! (r) (Ceefax and signing) (s) (9621) 12.30pm Working Lunch (2452) 1.00 Teaching Today (32663)

1.30 Showcase (5102253) 1.40 Hatch Potch House (r) (s) (3247027) 2.00 Firemen Sam (r) (6122525) 2.10 National Trust Gardens (3273084)

2.15 FILM: Wild West Wind (1991). Country music intrigue with Dolly Parton, Gary Busby and Willie Nelson. Directed by Joan Tewkesbury (Ceefax) (s) (355901)

3.55 News (Ceefax) (4680630) 4.00 Today's the Day (758) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (982) 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (Ceefax) (8336830) 5.40 A Week to Remember (b/w) (876253)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (r) (s) (333036)

6.25 Heartbreak High (Ceefax) (215017)

7.10 The O Zone Special. Last in series (s) (965562)

7.30 The Chemistry of (Almost) Everything. An investigation into the way science affects our lives (611)

8.00 Pound for Pound. Financial magazine (s) (5920)

8.30 Antonia Carluccio's Italian Feast BBC2, 8.30pm

You only have to speculate on Carluccio's waist measurement to know that he likes his food and the first solo series from the burly Italian cook after guest spots on Food and Drink is a non-stop homage to culinary enjoyment. If these programmes give the impression that Carluccio and his fellow Italians do little else but eat and drink, then nobody can say they are wasting their time. Each week Carluccio is in a region of Italy demonstrating some of its favourite recipes. He stars in Liguria, where he chats to a chef who has created dishes for the Pope and Frank Sinatra, drops in on a wine-tasting and goes fishing. His menus include pesto sauce, a rabbit and artichoke meatball for a group of monks and an elaborate fish stew. Olive oil, lashings of it, is the unvarying ingredient.

Nuremberg Channel 4, 9.00pm

The impending 50th anniversary of the sentences imposed on leading Nazis for crimes committed during the Second World War forms a reasonable peg for this documentary about the Nuremberg trials. Most of the programme is a clear and uncontroversial account of the proceedings, greatly helped by the fact that they were filmed. Being able to see the demeanour of Göring, von Ribbentrop and company in the witness box says much more than a mere record of the exchanges. Nuremberg also tells a less familiar story. Once the big names had been dealt with, the court went on to hear charges against Nazi-friendly bankers and industrialists. But because we need to rebuild the West German economy against the communist threat, these men were given very lenient treatment. Cold War politics, it is suggested, overruled justice.

Network First: Three Men and a Balloon ITN, 10.40pm

Richard Branson is a man who seemingly cannot keep still. Nor is he daunted by defeat. Having failed to cross the Atlantic by balloon, and then the Pacific, he decides to go for the big one: non-stop round the world, a feat not previously accomplished. He is joined by Per Lindstrom, a survivor of previous balloon adventures, and a business chum, Rory McCarthy. The venture turns out to be stronger on photo-opportunities, of which Branson is a master, than achievement. Deadlines repeatedly slip and there are recriminations when the project goes £1 million over budget. Nor have Branson and company got clearance from countries they plan to fly over. Libya, for one, it will shoot them down. David Stafford's commentary provides an aptly sceptical tone.

Peter Waymark

10.45 Antonia Carluccio's Italian Feast (s) (1727)

9.00 Timewatch: The History of a Mystery. How a poor priest in the South West of France found a parchment and became rich overnight (Ceefax) (84044)

9.30 FILM: The Alpinist. Chela, Professional mountaineer, shares the tricks of the trade (Ceefax) (482592)

10.00 Hancock: The Alpine Holiday. Classic comedy with Terry Hancock (b/w) (r) (Ceefax) (97920)

10.30 Newnight (Ceefax) (614920)

11.15 NEW: Over the Edge: Remember Me. People with HIV and AIDS talk about their dead lovers and their own impending deaths (Ceefax) (s) (584038)

11.45 Favourite Films. Michael Douglas reveals his favourite movies (r) (Ceefax) (583307)

12.15pm Pride of Dress. Followed by Weatherview (5479833)

12.30-1.30pm The Learning Zone

10.50-11.45 Strawberry and Chocolate (1986) (767494) 1.30pm Next Door (1989) (956031) 3.00-3.00pm Ordinary Gold (35184031)

3.30pm-4.30pm The Movie Channel

4.30pm-5.30pm The Big Picture (1991) 5.30pm-6.30pm Ordinary Gold (35184031)

6.30pm-7.30pm The Movie Channel

7.30pm-8.30pm The Movie Channel

8.30pm-9.30pm The Movie Channel

9.30pm-10.30pm The Movie Channel

10.30pm-11.30pm The Movie Channel

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7.30pm-8.30pm The Movie Channel

**RACING 44**

Why jockeys must not be used as whipping boys

# SPORT

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17 1996

**AMERICAN FOOTBALL 45**

Pass master still calling the shots for Packers



**QPR appoint former Arsenal No 2**

## Houston takes step down to launch career

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

STEWART HOUSTON is a nice man, with few frills or ulterior motives. He worked diligently behind the scenes at Arsenal for ten years until he resigned last Friday, and finally earned what he believes is due recognition when he became the manager of Queens Park Rangers yesterday. From FA Carling Premiership to Nationwide League first division, perhaps, but from perennial No 2 to new No 1. At last.

It is unlikely that Houston's thoughtful, composed nature will change, even though he will quickly discover where the buck now stops. Amid the heat of Highbury, he twice accepted temporary promotion from assistant to caretaker manager in the wake of the dismissals of George Graham and Bruce Rioch. He coped, calmly and competently.

Yet when it again emerged that Arsenal would not give him the task permanently, that he was just a stop-gap until Arsène Wenger gained release from Nagoya Grampus Eight in Japan, his ambitions could no longer be suppressed. QPR had a vacancy, having recently parted company with Ray Wilkins,

and Houston, 47, accepted a three-year contract.

"My decision was based over a period of time, it was not instantly reached," he said at Loftus Road yesterday. "I have always felt that, at some stage in my life and career, I would either go ahead and become a No 1 or stay and be happy as a No 2."

"It may be seen as taking a step down from the Premiership but, balancing that, I'm stepping up to a No 1 position. If I had to move on, the time was right. I had to take it. Rangers want to get back to the Premiership and so do I. I'll give it my best shot and hope the players do too."

QPR are sixth in the first division, after winning 3-1 against Barnsley at Oakwell on Saturday. Houston will lead them for the first time in their Coca-Cola Cup second-round, first-leg tie away to Swindon Town tomorrow.

Houston knows that success will be expected, then demanded. It does not faze him. "The Nationwide League is probably just as competitive as the Premiership," he said.

"It is a very competitive industry all round, the level of

expectation is always very high.

"Supporters expect their team to be challenging for honours and, if you do well, you get the rewards. If you don't, you have to face the consequences."

For Chris Wright, the owner of the Chrysalis Group, QPR and Wasps RFC, the surprise and dismay of Wilkins's sudden departure had swiftly evaporated. "Stewart has many fine qualities and a wealth of experience," he said.

"He will have funds made available to him and he does not have to sell first before he can buy. We've made that quite clear."

Houston, a former player with Chelsea, Manchester United and Sheffield United, intends to look, learn and listen over the next few weeks. He has to decide whether the backroom staff of Frank Sibley, Billy Bonds and John Hollins are part of his plans, and whether Mark Hateley, the forward, should have his loan spell extended at Leeds United.

He also has to settle the future of Trevor Sinclair, the much-courted England Under-21 striker. "We don't need to sell Trevor," Wright said. "We don't need the money, it's as simple as that."

Before agreeing to move from north to west London, Houston spoke with George Graham, his mentor at Highbury and the new manager at Leeds. Though the possibility existed of him joining Graham at Elland Road, it was eventually ruled out. "We had a conversation and George said it was probably the right time for me to be a No 1," Houston said.

If QPR are to return to the Premiership in May, Houston will have to put into practice everything he gleaned from Graham. "I've gained an enormous amount of knowledge from him," he said. "He was a teacher but also a winner, which was his greatest asset. If I can follow in the George Graham style of winning things, then that'll be fine."

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

GOOD news has been rare at Highbury this season, but Arsenal bucked the trend yesterday by confirming that they had finally managed to prise Arsène Wenger, the French coach from Nagoya Grampus Eight, his club in Japan. Wenger, who succeeds Bruce Rioch, will arrive in north London on September 30.

Pat Rice, the Arsenal youth team coach, will continue in the role of caretaker manager until after the FA Carling Premiership match at home to Sunderland on September 28. Wenger, 46, will then have plenty of time to take stock of his inheritance. With the Premiership taking a break because of World Cup

qualifying games, his first match in charge, against Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park, is not until October 12.

"It is my dream to manage a team in a top-level European league and it has always been my ambition to work in England," he said. "If I didn't accept this offer right now, I would miss the chance. I feel I have a special commitment to Arsenal."

Wenger's two-year contract with Nagoya does not expire until January next year but, after lengthy negotiations with the J-League club, he gained his release.

He will be replaced by Carlos Queiroz, the former Portugal national coach, who is in charge of New York-New Jersey MetroStars, the Major

League Soccer side in the United States.

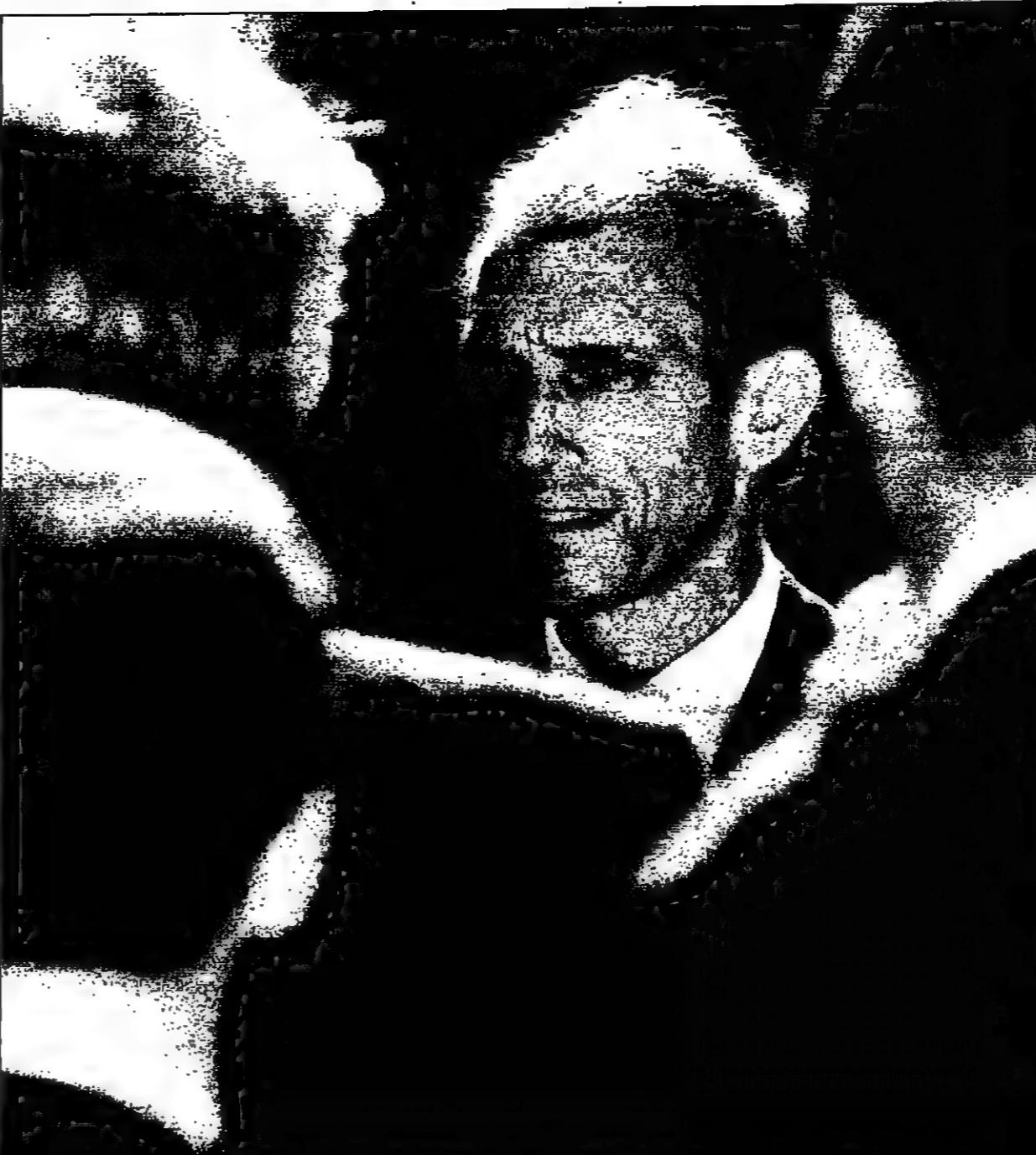
It also emerged yesterday that Arsenal's interest in

Wenger apparently preceded the dismissal of Rioch on August 12. Masaharu Teshima, a spokesman for Nagoya, said that Wenger first indicated that he wanted to resign in early August. He agreed to stay on until the end of the J-League season in November, but the situation changed radically with the sudden departure of Rioch.

When Wenger arrives, Arsenal could already be out of the UEFA Cup. They travel to Germany next week, for their first-round, second-leg tie against Borussia Mönchengladbach, with a 3-2 deficit.

Wenger will also have to

ADRIAN SHERATT



Houston faces questions at Loftus Road after being installed as the new Queens Park Rangers manager yesterday

**FA brings in breath tests for players to help clubs**

BY JOHN GOODBODY

PLAYERS are to undergo random breath tests after matches and training sessions as the Football Association begins a new drive to warn of the dangers of alcohol.

The governing body's concern has been heightened by the revelation at the weekend from Tony Adams, the England defender and Arsenal captain, that he is an alcoholic, while Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers' Association, has spoken of his worry about the "pop-star lifestyles" of some leading players.

The FA yesterday emphasised that it had planned to introduce these tests before the admission of Adams. However, after several drug scandals in football, the FA is increasingly worried about the reputation of the national game.

Steve Double, an FA spokesman, said: "We will be testing players at every professional League club this season, either after matches or at the end of training sessions."

"Last season we announced a programme of 500 drug tests that would be carried out and, as part of this process, a substantial proportion will include breath-testing players for the presence of alcohol."

Double said that a positive test for alcohol would be registered where a player recorded a reading above the drink-drive limit of 35 micrograms per 100 millilitres of breath.

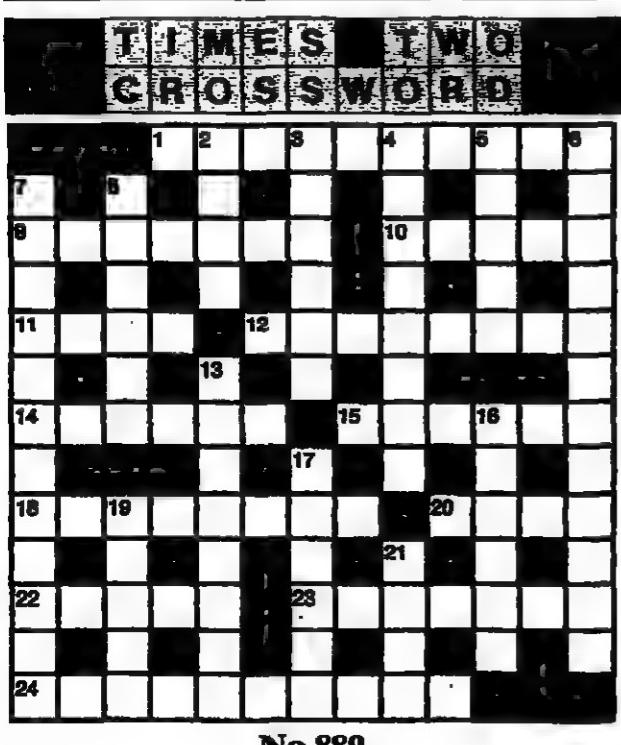
"The object of the exercise is to identify those players who do have a problem and bring this to the attention of the club's medical staff," he added.

In the past two years, Paul Merson, Adams's Arsenal colleague, has admitted using cocaine, and Roger Stanislaus, the Leyton Orient defender, tested positive for the same drug. In this period, eight professional players have been found to have taken marijuana and one has tested positive for amphetamines.

## Edwards encouraged in chase for Nadal

MANCHESTER UNITED moved quickly to put the signing of Miguel Angel Nadal back on course yesterday. After a phone call from Barcelona, Martin Edwards, the United chairman and chief executive, flew to Spain to meet Barcelona officials (Peter Ball writes).

Reports had suggested that Barcelona were having second thoughts about allowing the defender to leave, but Alex Ferguson, the United manager,



**CROSSWORD**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| ACROSS                                 | DOWN                                      |
| 1 General mêlée (4-3-3)                | 2 Play (4)                                |
| 9 Put down; a part-payment (7)         | 3 Bring about; restrict (inheritance) (6) |
| 10 Pulsate (5)                         | 4 Spectacle-maker (8)                     |
| 11 Portentous sign (4)                 | 5 Month <i>Ob, to be in England</i> (5)   |
| 12 Round; piece of junk mail (8)       | 6 Mazelike (12)                           |
| 14 Dead jester ( <i>Hamlet</i> ) (6)   | 7 Quirk of personality (12)               |
| 15 S Vietnam capital; Miss musical (6) | 8 Seem; turn up (6)                       |
| 18 For all to share (8)                | 13 Exact (8)                              |
| 20 Ready money (4)                     | 16 For nothing (6)                        |
| 22 Scent (5)                           | 17 Easy to remember (tune) (6)            |
| 23 Wariness (7)                        | 19 Ties up; high ground (5)               |
| 24 The recent past (10)                | 21 Russian parliament (4)                 |

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ACROSS: 1 Roquefort 6 Was 8 Chemist 9 Nasty 10 Ulma 11 Envelope 13 Extra! 14 Access 17 Sagacity 18 Char 20 Bowie 21 Trounce 22 Ray 23 Elevenes

DOWN: 1 Reduce 2 Queen's highway 3 Eric 4 Outing 5 Tendency 6 Wash one's hands 7 Style 12 Black-eye 15 Surtees 16 Statue 17 Sober 19 Hole

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## Surrey's shortcomings leave title ambitions in the hands of rivals

BY ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

CARDIFF (final day of four): Glamorgan (9pts) drew with Surrey (11)

A SECOND trophy, and one for which they would undoubtedly relish in their first remains tantalisingly within Surrey's reach. This, though, was not the triumphal day that they had in mind after winning the Sunday League. The wide grins and euphoria of a day earlier were replaced by long faces and fraying tempers in a finish that strayed dramatically from Surrey's prescribed script.

After a deflating failure to bowl out Glamorgan, and some posturing over Matthew Maynard's justifiable reluctance to declare, Surrey had a brief, brave but futile dash at a target of 336 in an eventual 51 overs. It ended in a scrambled draw, a scrap to deny Glamorgan's spinners and the knowledge that their championship prospects now depend upon a rare favour from their metropolitan rivals, Middlesex.

Nothing could have endorsed this more plainly than their need to employ Nadeem Shahid unchanged for three

hours over four intriguing days with a twist in the tail.

Surrey's first task was to split the Glamorgan fourth-wicket pair who had stymied them through the evening session on Saturday. It was almost an hour before they did so, Shahid bowling Cottier for 82, but two more wickets before lunch put Surrey on top. Dale top-edged an attempted sweep and James, having completed his seventh century of the season, was a classical leg-spin victim, caught at slip.

At this point, Glamorgan led by only 204 with six wickets down. The door was ajar for Surrey but they were not equipped to kick it down. They took the new ball after lunch but let Shahid bowl, as if aware that the seamers could do no better. After Croft and Shaw had kindly added 79, and the lead stretched to 300, Alec Stewart unstrapped his pads to have a bowl.

He probably knew in his heart that Maynard owed him no favours, but ten Surrey players had bowled and the tension of the day was visible by the time Glamorgan finally called a halt. Surrey responded valiantly, promoting first Julian, then Hollioake and Lewis, but the pre-tea sprint of ten runs an over could not realistically be sustained.

Wickets fell regularly, three to a masterful spell from Robert Croft, and once Hollioake's glittering 85, made from only 70 balls, had ended, Surrey were grateful for the three points. They may yet be crucial, though Leicestershire have it in their own hands to decree otherwise.

Total (7 wickets) 442

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-15, 3-34, 4-28,

5-208, 6-171, 7-302, 8-424,

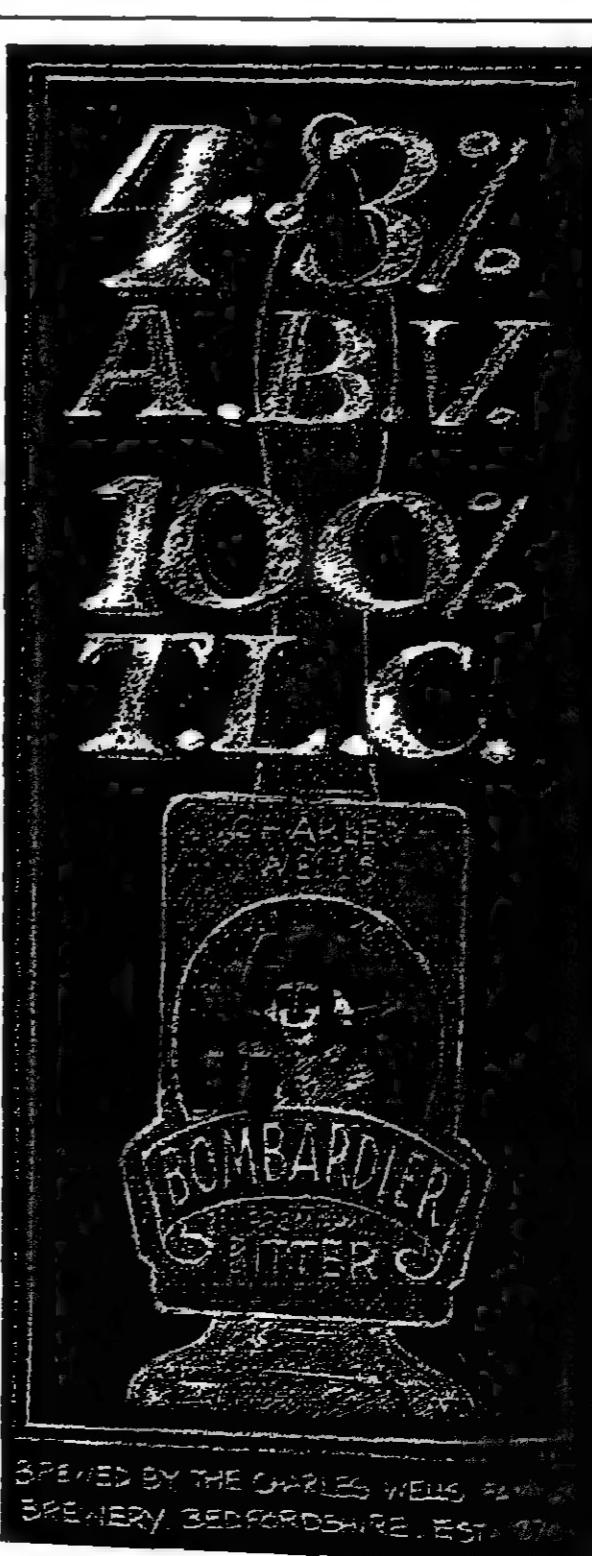
BOWLING: Maynard 4-0-26-1; Peart 3-0-27-1;

Dale 2-0-26-1; Cottier 2-0-26-0;

James 1-0-26-1; Lewis 1-0-26-0;

Shahid 5-0-26-2; Stewart 1-0-26-0;

Stokes 0-0-26-0; Williams 0-0-26-0.



Photograph, page 46  
Mighty McCague, page 46

BREWERY BY THE CHARLES WELLS BREWERY BEDFORDSHIRE ESTD 1777

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# **GTWO BOB DOUBLETALK**

virgin atlantic 

In Part Two of our series, a mother and daughter discuss the gap year; plus the options available



### Bridging the gap year

DAUNTED by your decision to take a year off? Then consult our guide below — and be miles ahead of your fellow voyagers before you even set off...

#### OPTIONS

##### WORKING ABROAD

School-leavers often think of VSO when planning a year abroad — but placements are for a minimum of two years and you must be at least 20. There are, however, more than 40 organisations that can help students to plan gap years: three are detailed here, the rest can be tracked down through any of the books in the Reading section below.

Gap Activity Projects (GAP) (01734 594914) is an educational charity which organises voluntary work in more than 30 countries. There is a £25 registration fee and a £420 placement fee. You will have to pay for your flights, insurance and, if necessary, a £200 TEFL course. In return you get free board and pocket money for placements lasting from six to nine months.

Project Trust (01892 230 444) offers posts for students wanting to do voluntary work for at least nine months. Apply the year before if possible. Candidates do a one-week selection course and pay £2,950.

Gap Challenge: World Challenge Expeditions (FTG) (0181 961 1122) sends students in small groups to Belize, Ethiopia, India, Nepal and Tanzania for three to six-month placements as teachers or social workers. Placements cost £1,200 which includes a training course, return flight and accommodation.

##### STAYING IN THE UK

Homebodies should consider becoming a Community Service Volunteer. Each year 3,000 young people work on projects ranging from helping the homeless in Glasgow to living with people with learning difficulties in Wales. You must be 16-35 and willing to work away from home full-time for four to 12 months. You will have free accommodation and meals, plus £22.50 a week. No one is rejected. Phone 0800 374991.

##### INDEPENDENT TRAVEL

It may seem daunting to head off into the unknown without formulated plans, but don't worry — you will not be alone. There are well-trodden routes full of people in the same pickle as yourself, and flexibility is one of the joys of travel.

• Round-the-world tickets incorporating stop-offs in Singa-

pore, Brunei, Perth, Sydney, Auckland, Fiji, Rarotonga, Honolulu and Los Angeles start at £695.

• Inter-rail tickets are priced by zones and range from £155 to £275. Most are valid for one month. Not all European countries participate in the scheme.

• Eurobus prices range from £99 for two weeks to £235 for three months. In America: Greyhound Bus passes cost £195 for 30 days. A Canada Pass is £99 for seven days.

• Travel agents: STA Travel has more than 100 offices worldwide and negotiates cheap fares for students: 0171 361 6161 (Europe); 0171 361 6262 (Worldwide). Trailfinders has a terrific reference library: 0171 937 5499 (Europe and US); 0171 938 3939 (Long-haul).

#### RAISING FUNDS

Gap Activity Projects recommends that as well as conventional ways of raising funds such as bar work, students should hold their own sponsored events.

Organisations offering sponsorship to students include Rotary International (0171-487-5429), Lions Club International (01254-813661); and the Round Table (0121-456-4402) and the Chamber of Commerce (0171-248-4444). Students' applications must explain what they hope to achieve in their gap year.

#### WHAT TO PACK

Overpacking is a common mistake made by first-time travellers. Lay out all the items you think you will need, then reduce it by half. If you are going to a hot country, limit rucksack size to a 35-litre (£35-£50). Avoid buying more than a 65-litre (£85-£140) pack. It is vital to secure your luggage: if locks are not provided, buy small padlocks which clip on to luggage zip-tags. Also take a smaller day bag for valuables and things you may need in a hurry.

Useful things to pack include: a light waterproof, torch, penknife, inner-sheet, string, padlock, mini towel, sewing kit, water bottle, flip-flops (for use in unsavory bathrooms). Pack everything in individual plastic bags.

Invest in lightweight gear sold in specialist shops such as YHA Adventure Shops (0171 836 8541), Blacks (0171 636 6645) and Millets (0171 936 1977).

#### SAFETY

• The biggest danger in the



Staying together, for now: Erin and Sally Baker

### THE MOTHER: AT LEAST SHE IS SPARED FROM THE WHITE SLAVERS

**G**ap year? Gap between what and what? Childhood and adulthood? Only if you class students as adults. Poverty and greater poverty! Undoubtedly. And guess who will end up bridging that gap?

But that's enough grumbling. I am as thrown by Erin's late change of plan as she is, since I agreed with her initial judgment that she would not wait a year before embarking on the next educational journey. But she achieved such remarkable

A-level results that if she now wants to try for the very best, I am nervously behind her.

So the crucial thing, in my boringly predictable parental view, is not to commit the cardinal sin of Wasting Her Time. The catch, of course, is that we define waste rather differently.

The following exchange took

place almost immediately the deci-

sion to defer university was taken.

Erin: "I'm not going abroad."

Me: "Oh yes you are."

Erin: "No no I'm not."

I had naturally assumed she

would be following in the dusty

footsteps of so many of her peers

and heading for Nepal, Singapore,

Sydney, Thailand and anywhere

else that the youth of the world

gather to share exotic substances.

tion to defer university was taken.

If you are completely broke

you could contact the nearest

British Embassy or Consulate.

They cannot bail you out but

should advise you.

Health can be more of a

problem. For minor ailments,

ask at a pharmacy for advice.

A small medical kit is also a

sensible thing to carry (includ-

ing sterile needles).

On reflection, however, why is that such a great idea? It will cost us jointly a fortune and will not necessarily be a better preparation for life than a period of voluntary work locally as part of her Duke of Edinburgh gold award, which otherwise she might not have been able to complete.

Moreover, her projected stint at Marks & Spencer dealing with

harassed consumers will be not only an education but a money-earner.

So it looks as if I'm stuck with her for a bit longer. And if she subsequently makes it as far as Bonn (not abroad with a capital A) to keep up her German, I shall at least be spared some of the nightmare visions of her falling prey to some tropical disease, or into the clutches of a white slave trader.

SALLY BAKER

Butcher, Trotman and Co, 12 Hill Rise, Richmond TW10 6UA. £7.95 plus £1.60 p&p (0181 332 2132).

• *The Gap Year Guidebook* 1997/98, Periodic Press, 2 Blenheim Crescent, London W11 1NN (0171 221 7404). £7.95 plus 50p p&p.

• *Taking A Year Off* by Val

lish as a foreign language and teaching abroad: £2.35 and an s.a.e. to AGCAS, Crawford House, Precinct Centre, Manchester M13 9EP.

• *A Year Off, A Year On?* Hobsons, Bateman St, Cambridge CB2 1BR. £8.99 incl p&p from Biblio, Star Rd, Partridge Green, West Sussex RH13 8LD.

• Booklets on teaching Eng-

lish as a foreign language and teaching abroad: £2.35 and an s.a.e. to AGCAS, Crawford House, Precinct Centre, Manchester M13 9EP.

• *How To Spend A Year Abroad* by Nick Vandome. Part of the *How To* series. £5.99.

• *The Rough Guide and Lonely Planet* series.

### COMPETITION

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BY collecting tokens in *The Times* you could win one of five classic sports cars. The competition, in association with *The Sunday Times* and the Royal Mail, celebrates the 100th anniversary of the British motor industry by giving readers the chance to win one of the following five cars:

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- Austin Healey 100/4, 1954

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If you are a *Times* reader you can enter by sending a completed form (another will appear on Saturday) with one token from *The Sunday Times*, two were printed on September 8 and 15 and seven differently numbered tokens from *The Times*. Readers of *The Sunday Times* need two tokens printed on Sunday September 8 and 15 and three differently numbered tokens from *The Times*.

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call 0345 22 33 44. First day

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from BPPCA: 0181 886 6744

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# 'This old age pensioner is rather enjoying herself right now'

Britain's former spy chief, Stella Rimington, writes about the pleasures of life with a bus pass

**A**s Director-General of MI5, you know things. Not all about everyone's private life, but you do know quite a lot of what's going on in the country and in the world. A former head of the French Renseignements Généraux, which is roughly equivalent to MI5, once told me that he was required to keep his finger on the pulse of France, so that the President could judge every day the health of the nation.

'I know crowds conceal muggers and mad axemen'

As chief of MI5 you have no such wide-ranging monitoring task, but you do sit at the head of an efficient machine, working to produce assessed intelligence about what is threatening the security of the State.

At the same time, though, you are quite insulated from day-to-day life. You are driven from place to place; you rarely use public transport. If you go shopping you do it in a rush, dashing in for a trolley-load of convenience food on your way home from work. You don't have a lot of time or opportunity to socialise, except on official business, or to chat with the window-cleaner or the milkman, or even with your children. You rely for your information about everyday affairs, heaven help you, on the newspapers.

I have found that now I have emerged, blinking, into the

daylight, and have time to look around me, the world seems to have moved on from when I last really noticed it. And rather than finding, as I was expecting, that everything had got worse, to my amazement quite a lot of things seem to be better than I remember them. Perhaps it is because so much of my time, for so many years, has been focused on the activities of unpleasant people, like terrorists and spies, that the sheer relief of not having to think about them anymore has generated an unrealistic euphoria. I hope it is not only that.

Surprisingly enough, for one who had been travelling around London by bus and Tube for years, I was quite nervous about launching forth again. I had read how public transport had deteriorated and I was expecting to find the Tubes dirty and dangerous and the buses unreliable. Nothing of the kind.

While I've been in purdah, London's buses seem to have changed out of all recognition. In addition to the old familiar double-deckers, there are all those little single-deckers, whizzing around. They seem amazingly efficient, and using my senior citizen's bus pass, I leap on and off with gay abandon. They come on time, and the drivers are friendly and helpful. Twice recently, I



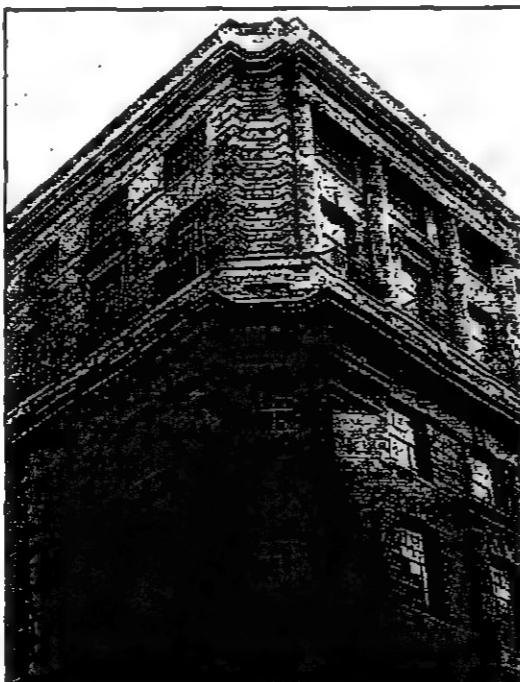
"Now I have emerged blinking into daylight, things seem better than I remember them"

have been on a bus, which made extra stops to let off people closer to their homes than the bus stop — somebody with heavy bags and a woman with a baby and pram. It is probably quite illegal, but the driver wanted to help. I have noticed that the drivers often stop and open the doors again when they see someone running to catch the bus.

Don't I remember the days when they would have accelerated away with glee in such circumstances? Maybe it is because I always travelled in the rushhour before, when all the rest of the passengers would have complained at such kindness.

I am sure that there are far more people around than I remember. At all times of the day, the buses and Tubes, the streets and the shops and even the picture galleries seem to be full, and they are certainly not all tourists.

I avoid the rushhour, but even what once would have been the quiet times are as busy as the rushhour used to be. I know that the crowds conceal muggers and mad



The headquarters of MI5 in Millbank, London

achieve their objectives. And they are certainly not all motivated primarily by money. The schools and universities must be doing something right.

I used to be very proud of the young people who came into the Security Service, when I saw how quickly they mastered the work and how enthusiastic and committed they were to be doing a job that they thought, quite correctly, was of great importance to the country. Of course, we chose them very carefully, but there was no shortage of good candidates.

The young, rightly, expect a lot from their employers. They expect to be trained properly and to be managed well and to have their views listened to and taken seriously.

It has struck me, as I go about, that people are, on the whole, better trained to do their jobs than they used to be. The standard of service seems to be higher. Now that I am not always in a rush, I have time to talk and to ask questions and, most of the time, I get sensible and polite replies. I do not think I could have counted on that a few years ago.

The other day, probably rather unfairly, I asked some-

one

who was working on a cash-till in a branch of a well-known chain-store, to explain the reasoning behind her employer's policy on credit cards.

She gave me a most courteous and coherent reply, without slowing down her task of ringing up my purchases on the till and packing them into bags. I suspect that until quite recently I might have got at best a blank stare and quite possibly a rude reply.

My rose-tinted spectacles will, I know, begin to change colour as I get further into my new life. But for the moment, one old age pensioner is rather enjoying herself.

## Tragedy of the Titanic — and the voices that kept haunting me

Novelist Beryl Bainbridge on how writing about a famous marine disaster changed her view of ghosts

I am not the sort of person who believes in ghosts, but I am beginning to take on board the idea that someone who is engaged in turning an historical event into a work of fiction could, quite possibly, become a kind of transmitter of voices from the past.

In the small hours of the morning of April 15, 1996, I was wrestling with the writing of the last few pages of my novel entitled *Every Man for Himself*. Such a phrase has, of course, two meanings, the first being an injunction bawled out to his crew by the captain of a sinking ship, the second a truthful, if cynical, observation on the nature of man. I was working on a word processor in the top back room of a Victorian terraced house in Camden Town. From the window, over the blurred splotch of the tree in next door's garden, rose the pale outline of the old Craven A cigarette factory, now known as Greater London House, whose gleaming bulk rears up like the stem of some vast ocean liner tethered in the dry dock of Mornington Crescent.

In my mind I was on the deck of the steamship *Titanic*, which sank on her maiden voyage to New York in the early hours of April 15.

Most novelists enjoy writing the concluding pages of a book: there are few things more satisfying in life than that last gallop towards the final paragraph. Always before, I'd known what I wanted to say at the end, often before I knew what I wanted to say at the beginning, and although the results never matched up to the expectations, at least I'd never been at a loss for words.

The process is usually helped by a brief moment — it can happen at any stage in a book — when two or three sentences write themselves, or rather, the thoughts ride in like the cavalry. For me, this had happened in the previous chapter, during a scene in the restaurant when one of my characters, called Morgan, sticking to his newfound resolve never to drink again, begins to feel "queer".

"I had to go on eating because if I looked up I might see faces pressed to the window, hands clawing the glass."

After this unexpected but helpful intervention it was not too difficult to write of

the events surrounding the great ship's collision with the iceberg which, to a sound like the tearing of calico, ripped a 300ft gash in her side. Now, the last lifeboat having rowed away, the lights still blazing and the orchestra still playing *Nearer My God to Thee*, I was one of the 1,500 souls left on board.

Not all of us, of course, were on the top deck, clawing our way upwards as the stern began to lift from the water. Benjamin Guggenheim and his valet had gone below to change into evening



Bainbridge: Ordeal

dress, so as to "die like gentlemen." Mrs Straus, wife of the millionaire who owned Macey's store in New York, was guided towards a lifeboat, but had refused to board without her husband. He, offered a place owing to his advanced years, declined at which Mrs Straus is reported to have said: "We shall stay together, old dear. As we have lived, so shall we die." They then went and sat on deckchairs, holding hands.

In my head I considered writing of a blazing row between them, in which she called him an arrogant old fool for not getting into the lifeboat, but thought better of it. It would have been arrogance on my part. Four decks below, seawater lapping their ankles, the steerage passengers ran screaming along the labyrinth of corridors.

Alas, the cavalry having charged past, words failed me. I was left peering at that damned screen, fingers poised on the letters and nothing in my head. It was then that I heard noises. Not screams exactly, just raised voices. I actually thought I was being burgled though I couldn't understand why

Some weeks later, I was told of a strange incident in Ireland. A friend had gone for a walk and sat down to rest on a bench near some trees. She immediately began to shiver and felt extremely depressed, so much so that she returned home in a distressed state. It was discovered that she had been sitting on a bench dedicated to the memory of Bruce Ismay, a director of the Cunard shipping line, who was pilloried for the rest of his life for being one of the few survivors of the *Titanic* disaster. It was thought that, like the captain, he should have gone down with his ship.

Maybe I believe in ghosts after all.

• *Every Man for Himself* by Beryl Bainbridge is published by Duckworth (£14.99).

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## RESTLESS REGIONS

The message of the Po for the Clyde and the Rhine

Umberto Bossi's proclamation of an "independent Padania" in Venice on Sunday was a summer shower. His Northern League's predictions that a million people would flock to its three-day "march" down the River Po proved greatly exaggerated. This latest political stunt cannot be likened to Mussolini's March on Rome, a comparison which his paraded green shirts seemed open to invite. And yet the appeal of the separatist libretto he has written should not be dismissed because of the farce attendant on this first performance; the discontents that he is seeking to harness are real and they are not confined to Italians.

Padania is not Catalonia, or even Scotland. The old city-states of Milan, Parma, Mantua and Venice share neither common dynastic histories nor a common institutional heritage that marks them out from the rest of Italy. It is an anti-historical construct; the League cannot even agree on its frontiers. But behind Signor Bossi's opportunistic myth-making is the reality of the North as Italy's dynamic economic core. Northern regionalism, expressed in demands for federal autonomy, was also conjured into existence by Signor Bossi in little over a decade, seemingly out of thin air. The idea that Italy could become as federal in its system of government as Germany, once unthinkable, is no longer even divisive. Signor Bossi's talent for politics has now secured a place in the political vocabulary for separation as well.

His campaign has undoubtedly drawn strength from circumstances peculiar to Italy, notably rising exasperation with Rome's postwar succession of weak, inefficient and corrupt central governments and resentment that the rich North was underwriting the chronically poor and Mafia-ridden Mezzogiorno. But regionalism as a political trend also reflects economic realities. All across the single European market, national borders count for less and less: for example, although Italy south of the Appenines remains a far more important market than Signor Bossi admits, Austria,

Slovakia and even Slovenia have become growth areas for the three Veneto regions, while Piedmont's economic ties are increasingly with France and Switzerland.

From "Padania" to Bavaria, European monetary union feeds into regionalist ambitions. Signor Bossi is at his most astute in playing the EMU card, asserting that prosperous independent Padania could make the European premier league with ease were it not shackled to Rome and the South. More broadly, he contends that as power gravitates to Brussels — a proposition that Italians, unlike Britons, find both natural and reassuring — the European Union will render national governments powerless anachronisms. As a European identity develops to the detriment of nationalism, he claims, the future will lie in a federation of self-governing European regions. Many Scots would agree.

The Italian Government, alive to the danger, has promised tax and other concessions and, for the longer run, set up an bicameral commission on constitutional reforms. But if it is to halve Italy's budget deficit within two years, it can ill afford to surrender control of income and expenditure to the regions. And the constitutional reforms will take at least two years to approve and must then be put to a national referendum. That leaves Signor Bossi, or politicians more respectable than he, plenty of time to build support for his "Czechoslovak solution" — outright divorce.

Above all in those European countries which, like Germany, Italy and Belgium, were unified only in the 19th century, weak national governments are exceptionally vulnerable to this sort of talk now that the Cold War's external threat has receded. Italy, where Cavour's grand liberal vision has never been fully absorbed into the collective psyche, may be especially prone to regional restiveness; but even Helmut Kohl has to keep a careful eye on Munich. Italy has not for some time been a political trend-setter for Europe; but other governments may still have to reckon with Bossi's of their own.

## DOLEFUL POLITICS

The Republican campaign is wielding the wrong weapons

Bob Dole's attempt to repackage himself as the champion of American family values is surprising only in that it has come so late in the day, just seven weeks before the presidential elections. But the relaunch is unlikely to save him; indeed, it represents a second tactical error in a faltering campaign.

Mr Dole's first mistake was to make economic performance the focus of his early attacks on President Clinton. A month after the Republican convention, those themes have won him little new support. Voters have so far cast a cold eye on his pledge to return America to its economic golden age, raising annual growth from the present level of 2.3 per cent to 3.5 per cent by 2002.

Many find this claim implausible, believing that state taxes will promptly rise to compensate for the proposed cuts at a federal level, or that interest rates will rise in response to a widening budget deficit. Others do not care: the "feel-good" factor is stronger than it has been for years, and after two quarters of exceptionally strong growth, the Federal Reserve Bank is on the verge of pushing up interest rates. Against that backdrop, it is not surprising that Mr Dole's economic message has had little resonance.

In theory, the themes of family values and morality should prove more fruitful territory for him. The electorate is acutely concerned about crime and drug abuse. Mr Dole will point to regions where these have risen under the Clinton Administration. He has recourse to a bounty chest of examples of presidential inconsistency. Not least, he can raise more directly the question of the "character" of Mr Clinton and his colleagues, a euphemism for the allegations of sex and sleaze hanging over the team.

Yet these new weapons may not win Mr Dole much ground. Democrats will brandish their own list of drug-fighting pro-

grammes and claim that these would be jeopardised by Republican spending cuts. As for character, when voters elected Mr Clinton they knew many of his faults; that image has since been elaborated but not profoundly changed. Nor does the Whitewater affair appear to have seriously tarnished Mr Clinton in the public eye; short of an indictment of the President or his wife, it does not seem an electoral liability.

It is even possible that Mr Dole will find that the character issue backfires. Voters dislike personal attacks by one politician on another. What is more, judged by what is ordinarily understood by "character" — resilience, ability to recover from adversity, not to mention charisma and charm — Mr Clinton has his rival beaten.

The better strategy for Mr Dole might have been to concentrate on the factors which gave the Republicans their triumph at the mid-term elections. The fiasco of the healthcare reforms proposed by Hillary Clinton has been surprisingly neglected in Republican rhetoric; instead, Mr Dole has allowed the President too much rein to portray himself as the saviour of Medicare and Medicaid. The issues which plagued the early months of the Clinton Administration, such as the proposal to allow homosexuals to serve in the military, might have more electoral mileage than the Republicans have tried to extract. Some of Mr Clinton's first appointments to his team might also be held up as evidence of poor judgment.

It is unfortunate for Mr Dole that shrewd tactics might not now save him. But that does not mean that Republicans should jettison or neglect arguments which served them so well just two years ago. There is all the difference between humiliating rout, sacrificing established principles, and honourable defeat.

## INTO THE GAP

Students were not sent into the world entirely for pleasure

For a few delicious moments after the last A-level exam has finished students can sit back, laze in the sun and toss their swot sheets of facts and quotes into the waste basket. Anticlimax soon follows. Idleness can prove dull, and prospective university entrants dream instead of adventures. For many, as we have been reporting this week, the prospect of taking a year off is increasingly attractive. Here is a chance to see the world and satisfy youthful idealism with voluntary service in steamy climes. The gap year would seem to combine the 18th-century Grand Tour with the new necessity to have something eye-catching for the CV.

The gap year is a peculiarly British concept: on the Continent the aim is to start university as soon as possible in order to graduate early and start earning. The gap year was largely a by-product of the Oxbridge practice of setting entrance examinations in December for entry the following autumn. The harnessing of this enforced free time for good works was given a boost by Voluntary Service Overseas, one of the first bodies to involve young people in post-colonial development work. School-leavers were sent to Africa or Asia and given responsibilities.

## Monarch's role as "last taboo"

From Professor Stephen Haseler

Sir, The meeting today at Balmoral by the Royal Family and their advisers (report, September 16) is to be welcomed as a belated recognition that not all is well with the institution of monarchy. Yet it is also a sad commentary upon the state of our democracy.

This royal get-together is rumoured to be addressing such crucial constitutional questions as the relations between the State and the Catholic Church, the disestablishment of the Church and the State's role in financing the Royal Family. Yet this Balmoral event, which raises issues which will affect us all as citizens, remains very much a family affair.

The royals evidently believe that our future constitution can best be discussed, even determined, by unelected persons (and their shadowy unelected advisers) behind closed doors.

In any democracy worth its salt these great constitutional issues would be determined by discussion and debate amongst the people's representatives. "We the people", through our Parliament, should be the arbiters of constitutional change, not an unelected family which has a vested interest in the outcome.

The fact is that the Royal Family is taking advantage of the vacuum created by the continued refusal of our politicians to get to grips with the issue of monarchy.

None of our major political parties — not the "radical" Liberals nor even "modernising" Labour — wants the issue of monarchy to surface before the election. Yet, sooner or later, should we in Britain want a constitution fit for the 21st century, Parliament, not the Royal Family, will have to address this last taboo.

Yours sincerely,  
STEPHEN HASELER (Chairman),  
The REPUBLICAN Society,  
PO Box 2698, London W14 9ZT.  
September 16.

## Circuit judges

From His Honour  
Derek Clarkson, QC

Sir, I support Sir Louis Blom-Cooper's view (letter, September 10) that the introduction of circuit judges into the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) is not working out as well as was intended.

A further consideration is this by statute, no circuit judge of any rank may participate in any hearing on appeal from a Crown Court trial by a High Court judge. The preservation of *amour propre*, to which Sir Louis refers, doubtless led to this provision.

Surely, the expertise and good sense of those recruited from the circuit bench are just as relevant and helpful at the hearing of any criminal appeal, provided that (i) the presiding member delivers any judgment that entails direct criticism of the trial judge, of whatever rank; and (ii) on an appeal from a High Court judge, the judgement is never delivered by the circuit judge member.

Yours faithfully,  
DEREK CLARKSON,  
72 Cornwall Road,  
Harrogate, North Yorkshire.  
September 10.

## From Mrs Elizabeth Gaskell Syms

Sir, Sir Louis Blom-Cooper opens the whole issue of relationships and conflicts of interest within the legal system.

In the civil courts the judiciary, who whilst practising at the Bar received all their work from solicitors, also have to sit in judgment on solicitors' conduct; and as deputy judges, practising barristers can preside over divisional appeals involving solicitors' conduct. In the county court solicitors themselves have control of such cases as district and deputy judges.

Questions of partiality are as uncomfortable as criticism of colleagues and do nothing to enhance public confidence in the legal system.

Yours faithfully,  
E. N. GASKELL SYMS,  
86 Victoria Road,  
Barnet, Hertfordshire.  
September 11.

## Investment in UK

From Mr Kevin McCormick

Sir, Mr Richard Page, Minister at the DTI, rightly points to Britain's success in attracting inward investment (letter, September 12). He says there are many reasons for this and lists six, including competitive labour costs, low taxation, advanced skills and incentives. But he fails to mention the single most important reason, which is, in my view, our membership of the European Union.

He says the government is not complacent about the growing competition for inward investment, and that is has "all the factors in place to ensure the UK a healthy future in the field of inward investment".

However, the recent government attitude towards the European Union puts our continued membership in doubt. This must be affecting future inward investment decisions already. It is easy to imagine what would happen to recent inward investment if we actually left the Union.

Yours sincerely,  
KEVIN MCGOWAN,  
43 Cheltenham Rise,  
Park Hill, Croydon, Surrey.  
September 12.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## How business would work with new Labour in power

From the Shadow Minister for  
Trade and Industry

Sir, New Labour will take up the challenge of Lord Hanson (article, September 10; see also letters, September 12 and 14) to show him what we are about before he casts his vote.

The noble Lord has clearly been too preoccupied with the demerger of Hanson Industries to notice the corporate governance changes that have been taking place around him, as recommended by the Cadbury and Greenbury committees, and the concerns echoed by Viscount Caldecote (letter, September 14). Lord Hanson seems still to believe we live in a *hyde era* of *wealthy individual shareholders* running their investments; but nowadays listed companies are owned by institutional investors.

Lord Hanson has great experience of the United States. He should know that institutional investors there issue codes of practice by way of guidelines to cover shareholders' rights and proxy voting, executive compensation, the performance of the chief executive, strategic planning, fiduciary oversight and social responsibility. They do so because they believe these will enhance shareholder value within the stakeholder economy.

Viscount Caldecote's suggestions — that institutional shareholders should accept their fiduciary responsibilities as effective owners of listed companies, that self-regulation is not working and that there is need for legislation — mirror not only the views of new Labour but those of many City institutions. These are not ideological matters but matters based on common sense and a feel for what is going on.

We are gratified that Lord Hanson's brick companies have accepted the principle of works councils (report, Business, September 12). We shall seek to build a consensus around our proposals for a new Companies Act and voluntary codes of practice, as recommended by Cadbury and Greenbury, and assure Lord Hanson that in new Labour's battle for hearts and minds he will not be forgotten.

Yours faithfully,  
ERIC BELLENIE  
(Chairman)

The Over-Fifties' Association,  
29 Hill Court, The Ridings, W5.  
September 14.

the extra half million or so men and women aged over 50 who wish, or need, to work but are forced into early retirement each year on 10 per cent of their expected pension.

Yours faithfully,  
ERIC BELLENIE  
(Chairman)

The Over-Fifties' Association,  
29 Hill Court, The Ridings, W5.  
September 14.

From Dr Marilyn Orcharton

Sir, As the owner of a small business marketing systems to other small businesses I cannot accept the claim by Barbara Roche, Shadow Minister for Small Businesses (letter, September 12), that "Labour has put forward... sensible and innovative ideas to help small businesses become more competitive".

If a Labour government imposes the regulations of the social chapter and a minimum wage, then most of the UK's 3.5 million "micro" business owners would need at least one employee and work even longer hours themselves.

Although many of these businesses make modest profits, if any, they are an excellent springboard for new entrepreneurs.

The employees are totally involved with all the difficulties and realities of selling a product or service which satisfies customers. The young people they employ may not be paid high wages but the "hands-on" training they receive is far more valuable than any academic "programme for employment" as proposed by Labour.

This country needs more wealth creators and more risk-taking entrepreneurs. There is no evidence that Tony Blair has the slightest understanding of this, let alone a willingness to support small businesses by freeing up regulations and reducing tax burdens on businesses, including punitive capital taxes, as the Conservatives have done.

Yours faithfully,  
MARILYN ORCHARTON,  
Kite (quality assurance and management consultants),  
7 Lynedoch Place, Glasgow 3.  
September 13.

## Reasons to vote

From Mr William Hutton

Sir, William Rees-Mogg ("Demon eyes are not scaring anyone", September 9) rightly concludes that John Major must give people reasons to vote for the Tories, not just reasons not to vote.

I suggest that support could have been sustainable if the party had not suffered so many areas of private enterprise to fall into dispute. The continuing failure to deal with abuses of privilege, from shenanigans in corporate boardrooms to light-fingered gentry in the City, falls hard with the majority of our people who, day by day, man the essential industries and services which alone guarantee prosperity.

Without adequate regulation, private enterprise can too easily degenerate into pirate enterprise; the consumer then walks the plank.

Great parties can only prosper on great ideas and the Tory party needs some quickly.

Yours faithfully,  
W. T. HUTTON,  
8 Sutherland Avenue,  
Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent.  
September 9.

## Protection from invasions of privacy

From Mr Keir Starmer and others

Sir, Norma Major is right to call for tough privacy laws (report, September 16); but the aim of any new legislation should not be merely to protect the rich and famous.

In a recently completed review of law and practice on compliance in the UK with international human rights standards we highlight the inability of the courts to protect all citizens against invasions of their privacy.

Respect for private and family life is enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights, originally drafted in Whitehall. Yet when it was ratified in 1951 the UK refused to consider whether our law and practice needed modification to comply with the obligations it was taking on.

## Secret army

From Mr W. G. McPherson

Sir, It was with mixed feelings that I read your report (September 7) on the special wartime force, the Auxiliary Units.

I was recruited to form a seven-man unit in 1940 and we served until stood down in 1944. We were never a part of the Home Guard, although we wore their uniform for cover.

It has always been a regret to us that we could not take part in Remembrance Day services, having no tangible evidence to show we were entitled to do so. Too late now: to the best of my knowledge all my men are gone. I am the only one left.

If medals are to be issued to surviving members of the Auxiliary Units it would surely only be right that they are given to the relatives of those who are gone.

I am Sir, yours respectfully,  
W. G. MC PHERSON  
(Sergeant, Scottish Auxiliary Units),  
37 Granary Street,  
Hunley, Aberdeenshire.  
September 10.

## From Mrs J. W. Lymberry

Sir, The Auxiliary Units were not the only people trained as resistance fighters.

Any combustible fuel can give rise to carbon monoxide poisoning. Any woman who is thinking of becoming pregnant, is pregnant or has young children should be especially conscientious about having every appliance regularly serviced and any chimney or flue swept by a fully-qualified engineer. A check should also be made to see that the ventilation is adequate and free of obstruction.

Yours sincerely,  
STEPHANIE TROTTER (President),  
The Carbon Monoxide and Gas Safety Society,  
Lorien House,  
Common Lane, Claygate, Surrey.  
September 12.

Low doses give rise to flu-like symptoms, headaches and nausea and can cause brain damage. Sids babies are often "unwell" for 48 hours before the event and, like adult carbon monoxide deaths, a higher proportion of Sids deaths occur in the winter months.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.



## COURT CIRCULAR

**BALMORAL CASTLE**  
September 16: The Rt Hon John Major MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) and Mrs Major have left the Castle.

**YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE**  
The Duke of Kent this evening attended The Queen Charlotte's Ball, Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London W1.

**Westminster Abbey Choir School**

Full term started after a short visit to Cologne. The Senior Chorister is Timothy Dickinson, Nicholas Richardson is Second Chorister and the Head of School is Toby Dunham. The new foundation choristers are Charles Richardson, Michael Martin, Oliver Vincent, Peter Portal and Benjamin Turner. The Choir will be touring America from October 10 to November 5 and the Christmas Concert with Emma Kirkby and the English Chamber Orchestra will be on December 17 at the Barbican. The Headmaster welcomes enquiries from parents of potential choristers (0171 222 615); the next voice trial will be on October 2.

**Dinner**

The Textile Institute  
Mr and Mrs Clemens N. Nathan were the hosts at a dinner held at The Athenaeum, London, Monday, September 16, to mark the retirement of Mr Richard Dyer as General Secretary of The Textile Institute. Among those present were:

Mrs Richard Dyer; Mr and Mrs Alan H. D. Hargreaves, President of The Textile Institute; Professor John W. S. Hartley; Dr Hans Locher, Marquess of Lothian; Mr and Mrs Marquess, Mr and Mrs S. Rubin and Dr Keith Silksone.

**Legal appointment**

Mr Timothy Edward Walker, QC, has been appointed a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.

**Today's birthdays**

**Professor Sir Donald Acheson**, former Chief Medical Officer, HM Government, 70; **Professor Sir James Armour**, veterinarian, 67; **Miss Anne Bancroft**, actress, 65; **The Right Rev T.J. Bavin**, former Bishop of Portsmouth, 61; **Mr David Bintley**, director, Birmingham Royal Ballet, 33; **Professor A.N. Broers**, Master, Churchill College, Cambridge, 58; **Marshal of the RAF Lord Craig of Radley**, 67; **Mr Don Cruckshank**, Director-General, Ofcom, 54; **General Sir Kenneth Darling**, 37; **Professor Naomi Datta**, geneticist, 42; **Miss Jennifer Dickson**, photographer and artist, 60; **Sir Desmond Fennell**, former High Court judge, 63; **Mr D.A. Fenner**, former Headmaster, Alleyn's School, 63; **Mr Derek Fox**, rugby league player, 32; **Mr Gwyn Francis**, former Director-General, Forestry Commission, 66; **Sir Richard Gaskell**, former president, Law Society, 70.

**Professor Sir John Hale**, Renaissance historian, 73; **Sir Desmond Hepp**, former Comptroller and City Solicitor, Corporation of London, 89; **Mr Chaim Herzog**, former President of Israel, 78; **Miss Anna Heylin**, chairman, Charles Barker, 53; **Mr Damon Hill**, racing driver, 36; **Mr Michael Jack**, MP, 50; **Ms Tess Jowell**, MP, 49; **Dr Desmond Lyman**, physicist, 54; **Mr Michael Morley**, racehorse trainer, 57; **Mr Stirling Moss**, racing driver, 67; **Mr John Napper**, painter, 80; **St Paul Newall**, former Lord Mayor of London, 63; **Air Commandant Dame Pauline Parsons**, former Air Attaché, 62; **Professor Ian-trainee, PMRAFNS**, 84; **Miss Dinah Sheridan**, actress, 76; **Miss Mary Stewart**, (Lady Stewart), novelist, 80; **Sir Jack Stewart-Clark**, MEP, 67; **Miss Karen Stewart**, showjumper, 32; **Professor Elizabeth Wilkinson**, former Professor of German, 87.

**Anniversaries**

**BIRTHS**: Tobias Rustat, Yeoman of the Robes to Charles II, baptised, Leicester, 1608; James Macnaght, biblical critic, Irvine, Ayrshire, 1721; Samuel Prout, water colour painter, Plymouth, 1783; Sir Francis Chichester, yachtsman, Barnstaple, 1901; Sir Frederick Ashton, ballet dancer and choreographer, Guyanval, Ecuador, 1906; Maureen Connolly (Little Mo), tennis champion, San Diego, 1934.

**DEATHS**: Tobias Smollett, novelist, Leigh-on-Sea, 1771; Alfred de Vigny, poet, Paris, 1863; Charles Robert Cockerell, architect, London, 1863; Walter Savage Landor, writer, Florence, 1864; William Henry Fox Talbot, pioneer of photography, Lacock Abbey, Wiltshire, 1877; Count Folke Bernadotte, UN mediator, assassinated, Jerusalem, 1948; Ruth Benedict, anthropologist, New York, 1948; Dame Lilian Brithwaite, actress, London, 1948; Laura Ashley, designer, Coventry, 1974.

**Reception**

**Prime Minister**: The Prime Minister was the host at a reception held yesterday evening at 10 Downing Street for The Friends of the Citizens Advice Bureaux.

**Luncheon**

**Monday Luncheon Club**: Mr John Guinness, Chairman of British Nuclear Fuels, was the principal guest at a luncheon of the Monday Luncheon Club held yesterday at the Savoy Hotel. Mr Roland Shaw presided.

**BMDS: 0171 680 6880**  
**PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000**

**BURIALS**: Jean Blanche, passed through the last of her suffering, but is able to help others, died in her 80th year. Her funeral, 2:10 (OBITUARY).

**MIRTHS**: **ANNIVERSARIES**: On September 13th, to Lisa Cole, Macmillan, a daughter, Charlotte. **ANNIVERSARIES**: - On 13th, to (Mrs Knocker) and Mark, a daughter, Charlotte. **DECEASED**: - See Richards.

**WEDDINGS**: On September 13th at The Portland Hospital, to Luisa (née) Macmillan, a daughter, and Alexander (née) and son, a baby, brother for Beauchamp.

**MEMORIALS**: - On September 13th, to the Portland Hospital, to Luisa (née) Macmillan, a daughter, and Alexander (née) and son, a baby, brother for Beauchamp.

**BORN**: - On September 13th at The Portland Hospital, to Christopher and Karin, a daughter, and Sophie, a son, a brother for Oliva, Rebecca and Natasha.

**MEMORIALS**: - On September 13th, to Lucy, wife of Alan, a daughter, and daughter for Oliver.

**MEMORIALS**: - On September 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Kimberley, Dennis, and son, a daughter, and Name Vanu, McKinnon, Otago-Hawke's Bay.

**MEMORIALS**: - On September 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Anna and Constance, a daughter, and Kerstin (née) Fuchs and William, a son, Nicholas James.

**MEMORIALS**: - On September 13th, to Alison (née) Wyke, and Tom, the gift of a daughter, Claudia Rebecca.

**MEMORIALS**: - On September 13th at The Portland Hospital, to Tina and Charles, a daughter, a son, Oliver, and Constance, a daughter, Claudia Josephine.

**MEMORIALS**: - On 7th September 1996, to Alison (née) Wyke, and Tom, the gift of a daughter, Claudia Rebecca.

**MEMORIALS**: - On September 13th 1996, to Alison (née) Wyke, and Tom, the gift of a daughter, Claudia Rebecca.

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## OBITUARIES

## JANE BAXTER

Jane Baxter, film and stage actress, died on September 13 aged 87. She was born on September 9, 1909.

For more than half a century, Jane Baxter was one of Britain's most accomplished actresses. Her vibrant quality illuminated a series of West End successes — among them the original production of *Dial M for Murder* — and 29 films. On Broadway, she played opposite John Gielgud, who also twice directed her. Yet what most endeared her to the public was her quintessential Englishness. Winston Churchill, an ardent admirer, described her during the Second World War as "that charming lady whose grace personifies all that is best in British womanhood".

She was born Feodora Kathleen Alice Forde in Bremen, Germany, where her father was working as an engineer and maritime cable-layer. He died when she was only six months old from a gunshot wound in circumstances that were never satisfactorily resolved. Her half-German mother, who had been lady-in-waiting to Queen Victoria's granddaughter, Princess Charlotte of Saxe-Meiningen, brought her children back to the family home in Wimbleton, where she struggled to raise them by giving singing recitals and piano lessons.

Fee, as she was known in the family, was determined to follow her elder sister Sylvia onto the stage. After studying at the Italia Conti School, she made her London debut at the age of 15 at the Adelphi Theatre as an urchin in the musical comedy, *Love's Picnic*.

Advised by Sir James Barrie that Feodora Forde was not an effective stage name, she chose Jane Baxter, after a character in a Booth Tarkington novel. Barrie took a special interest in her, and when Jean Forbes-Robertson fell ill while playing the title role in *Peter Pan* at the Gaiety Theatre in January

1928, Baxter stepped in for one week. As a result Jan Jay and P. G. Wodehouse offered her the leading role in their comedy *A Damsel in Distress*.

Baxter's willowy figure, appealing grey eyes and charming personality also brought her screen offers. After her debut in two early talkies, *Bedrock* and *Bed and Breakfast*, she played the lead, opposite Charles Laughton, in the thriller *Down River*. In 1930 she married the British racing driver Clive Dunfee, who announced that she had persuaded him to retire.

But, possibly feeling overshadowed by her growing success, he reneged on his promise never to race again and in 1932 he was killed at Brooklands. His wife, who was watching the race, looked on in horror.

But she courageously honoured her contract to star with Fay Compton and Owen Naeske in the play ironically (given the circumstances) entitled *Once A Husband*, and was received on her first entrance with a long and sympathetic ovation at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket.

After several more West End appearances, her next film, *The Night of the Party*, was directed by Michael Powell, who was later to refer to it as "this piece of junk". He and Baxter had a brief affair. After two more films Baxter landed the romantic lead opposite Richard Tauber in the Viennese musical *Blossom Time*. Although never a singer, she insisted on not being "cubed" for her only song, delivering it in a stylish reticence that anticipated by 22 years Rex Harrison's technique in *My Fair Lady*.

This beguiling performance brought offers from Hollywood. But, despite starring in the beautifully made *We Live Again* (1934) opposite Fredric March, and with Ann Harding in *The Enchanted April* (1936), she was unimpressed by Tinseltown. Even though Ronald Colman, then at the peak of his international fame, fell deeply in love with her, she



decided that she could never live in Hollywood. She returned to Britain to film *Royal Cavalcade*, with the young John Mills and Chilly Boucher; *Drake of England*; *The Clavarian*, with Claude Rains and Fay Wray; and *Line Engaged*, a thriller.

But she thought little of her film roles and in August 1935

she joined the repertory company at the Liverpool Playhouse. The leading actor there, Michael Redgrave, "viewed her arrival with some alarm", half expecting a spoilt, temperamental film star. He found instead "a delightful actress". They remained close friends and Baxter became godmother to Redgrave's actress daughter

Vanessa. On the London stage she had her greatest success, as the flirtatious Frankie in Gerald Savory's comedy *George and Margaret*, which ran at Wyndham's Theatre for two years from February 1937.

Her wartime work included a run in *George and Margaret*, revived at the Piccadilly Theatre, and her best ever film

role as an admiral's daughter in the wartime Fleet Air Arm drama *Ships with Wings* (1941). The *Flemish Farm* (1942) was about wartime heroics in Nazi-occupied Belgium.

After the war she had her Broadway debut in 1947 at the Royale Theatre, New York, as Cecily Cardew in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, with John Gielgud and Margaret Rutherford. Her sole Shakespearean appearance was in 1948 with the Old Vic Company as a vivacious Viola in *Twelfth Night* — Alec Guinness's directorial debut.

Among her stage work in the 1950s was a starring role in the comedy *Indian Summer* at the Criterion (1951); in 1952, at the Westminster Theatre, she originated one of the English stage's most effective postwar thrillers, *Dial M for Murder*. After her last film, *All Hallowe'en* (1953), she made several television appearances but she continued to be busy on stage in fare as different as William Douglas Home's *A Friend Indeed* (1966) and in Ibsen's *Ghosts* at the Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds.

Her final West End role was at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, in April 1972, when she played opposite Sir Michael Redgrave in John Mortimer's autobiographical play *A Voyage Round My Father*. Redgrave agreed to take this part only on condition that Baxter was cast opposite him. Her last stage role was at the Churchill Theatre, Bromley, in 1978, with Richard Todd in *Assault*.

After the death in 1978 of her second husband, Brigadier Arthur Montgomery (whom she had married in the early days of the war), she retired to Wimbleton, where she delivered meals-on-wheels to local residents. In July 1992 she appeared at the London Palladium in a tribute to Evelyn Laye, and received the loudest cheers of the evening.

She spent the last weeks of her life peacefully at home, cared for by her two daughters and a son, who survive her.

## PETER BENNETT

Peter Bennett, OBE, Chairman of W H Smith & Son Holdings, 1977-82. died in hospital in Brighton on September 15 aged 79. He was born in Toronto, Ontario, on February 7, 1917.

ONLY the second chairman of W H Smith not to be a member of the Smith family, Peter Bennett succeeded the first, his brother-in-law, Sir Charles ("Dick") Troughton, in February 1977, having been chairman of the operating company from 1972 to 1974.

He became a director of Thorn-EMI in 1977, a director of Lloyds & Scottish in 1979, and chairman of SLS Environetics in 1981. A Canadian by birth, though of British parents, Peter Ward Bennett was educated at Upper Canada College and the University of Toronto.

During the Second World War he served with the Canadian Army in Europe. He was at first a platoon commander with the 1st Battalion the 48th Highlanders of Canada, subsequently being promoted to become Brigade Major for an infantry formation at the Bury St Edmunds.

His final West End role was

at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, in April 1972, when she played opposite Sir Michael Redgrave in John Mortimer's autobiographical play *A Voyage Round My Father*. Redgrave agreed to take this part only on condition that Baxter was cast opposite him. Her last stage role was at the Churchill Theatre, Bromley, in 1978, with Richard Todd in *Assault*.

He was then appointed to command one of the Toronto battalions of the Essex-Suffolk Regiment in the Canadian Infantry Corps. He led it from the fierce fighting around Caen and the hard-fought action at Falaise, through the dour slog up into the Low Countries on the left flank of the 21st Army Group in bitter winter weather. In these grim battles his battalion distinguished itself for its tenacity.

After the capture of Antwerp in the autumn of 1944 he was appointed GSOI to the 2nd Canadian Infantry Division, serving with it to the end of the war.

The war over, Bennett returned to Toronto to complete his professional qualification, and to practise as a chartered accountant there. He was instrumental in setting up the W H Smith Canadian business and was then invited to join the board of the parent

company in Britain as a managing director.

Over the years Peter Bennett was closely connected with the reorganisation of the retail side of the business, notably the introduction of central buying. Indeed, he played a major part in bringing about revolutionary changes and innovations in the W H Smith system generally, taking the initiative over the firm's development abroad, and over the establishment of Book Club Associates.

Bennett took a lively and progressive interest in staff welfare, and in social welfare,

and among other things he arranged a "Willing Hands" operation through Smith's retail branches as a kind of clearing house, matching the problems of individuals with available services, official and voluntary.

A certain taciturnity and briskness covered an innate shyness and a warm generosity of spirit and action, while those who might have at first considered him something of a philistine were often confounded at incidental revelations of wide reading and, especially, of a deep musical appreciation. He retired from the W H Smith chair in 1982 and was succeeded by Simon (now Sir Simon) Hornby. In retirement he lived in Sussex.

Peter Bennett is survived by his wife Anne, and by one son and three daughters.

## BRIGADIER MALCOLM DENNISON

Brigadier Malcolm Dennison, Lord-Lieutenant of Orkney, died on August 30 aged 72. He was born on March 19, 1924.

ORKNEY and Oman were for Malcolm Dennison twin Arcadias where he found the solitude and company of friends in the measure he sought them. As a key member of the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces Intelligence from 1955 to 1983, he contributed to the process which pre-

served the Sultanate and the stability of the country from the various threats, external and internal, which occurred during that period. When the medieval-style autonomy of Oman's 13th Sultan Said bin Taimur was replaced by that of the modernising Sultan Qaboos, his presence at the heart of the country's intelligence network helped to ease the transition.

That the country is now prosperous, modern, virtually crime-free and proud of its achievements is in some measure due to Dennison, who contributed behind the scenes to that process. As development and the new bureaucracy tended to smother age-old custom, especially in redress of grievances, he was always ready and often able to help.

He was deeply interested in Oman and its people, and his affection for each community itself to friend and foe alike as his patient ear encouraged both to unb burden themselves to him. And there were never any whispers of hatred from those whom he might

once have regarded as the enemies of Oman's stability.

Malcolm Gray Dennison was born in Blantyre, Nyasaland, of Orcadian parents. His father, who died in 1935, was manager of tea and tobacco estates. Educated at Lincoln School and Edinburgh University, he joined the RAF in 1943. After training in Canada he served as a navigator in 3 Group operations over Europe, supplying Resistance movements with stores and munitions in occupied countries from France to Norway. He was posted to the Middle East in 1946 and served in Egypt before spending 1947-48 at the Middle East School of Arabic Studies in Lebanon. Thereafter he held intelligence appointments in RAF Egypt and, briefly, in Aden. His last appointment before retirement was Squadron Leader (Intelligence and Operations) at Waddington, a station then commanded by the celebrated "Willie" Tait who had led 617 "Dambusters" Squadron when it first crippled, then finally sank, the German battleship *Tirpitz* in a Norwegian fjord in 1944.

In 1953 he joined the Bahrain Petroleum Company as personnel officer. But he was soon disenchanted with oil camp life. When in 1955 he was offered a three-year contract with the Muscat and Oman Field Force (MOFF), he seized the opportunity, and so began nearly 30 years in the service of the Sultan of Oman. He rose from the rank of captain and squadron commander in the MOFF — in effect political-intelligence officer — to brigadier and adviser on national security affairs to the present ruler of Oman, Sultan Qaboos.

Dennison took part in the operations in 1955 when the Sultan of Muscat and Oman (as the country was known until 1970) decided to exert his authority over the sheikhs of interior Oman and his forces occupied Nizwa and the whole of Oman proper. Dennison was later wounded — and left with a permanent and painful disability — while on reconnaissance in the South East of the country. He had hardly returned to duty in mid-1957 before he was involved in the disastrous failure of an opera-

tion to round up leading dissidents.

Subsequently he played a conspicuous part in the Sultan's forces which, with the support of British Army and RAF units, eventually ended the insurrection. His lasting contribution was to win by his charm and integrity the trust and respect of the Omanis, from the ruler down through the leaders of the tribes and communities to the citizens and soldiers.

But in 1965 Dhofar, the southern province of Oman

numbers to work alongside the Sultan's armed forces, and between them the SAS and SAF brought the insurrection under control in five years. By 1975 the last groups of rebels had surrendered or decamped to Yemen.

Dennison played no direct part in the assumption of power by Qaboos, but as Director of Intelligence and a member of the National Defence Council he was a link with the able and experienced exiles who had fled abroad to escape Sultan Saif's oppression and were to return home to play their parts in the fledgling Government of the young Sultan. People trusted him as a sincere champion of the new reign. And as national security adviser to Sultan Qaboos, he was able to keep his fingers on the pulse of the scattered, disparate and expectant peoples of Oman.

His services were acknowledged by the awards of the Order of Oman and the Sultan's Distinguished Service Medal.

Dennison retired to his family home in Orkney in 1983 but retained his links with Oman, where he was a regular visitor until three years ago, when his cancer was first diagnosed. He was always a very private person, but he enjoyed the company of his friends and his books.

He became chairman of the Friends of St Magnus Cathedral and was appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Orkney in 1990. He was made Commander with Star of the Norwegian Order of Merit during the state visit of the King of Norway.

He did not marry and is survived by his elder sister and two brothers.

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## Small firms to take on different role by 2006

By BRIAN COLLETT

MORE small businesses will be dependent on large companies in ten years' time. They will be contracted to supply corporations, losing some of their traditional independence.

The reliance, however, will work both ways and small businesses will become increasingly indispensable to larger firms.

Ted Fuller, director of the Small Business Foresight Programme at Durham University Business School, has built up a picture of small traders in 2006. Mr Fuller will be among speakers at the Foresight team's London conference next month on the business scene.

Mr Fuller said the small business role was already changing. "It has been seen almost as a panacea for unemployment," he said. "Now it is more of a motor in the economy." He expected many more spin-off businesses of limited life to serve specific projects, run by partnerships of large and small companies.

Many businesses will be created by staff leaving large employers through redundancy or early retirement, predicted Mark Scott, of the small business services department of NatWest, which sponsors the Durham team. He said that the average age of people forming businesses would be higher because large companies seek younger employees, and young unemployed people are more likely to find work.

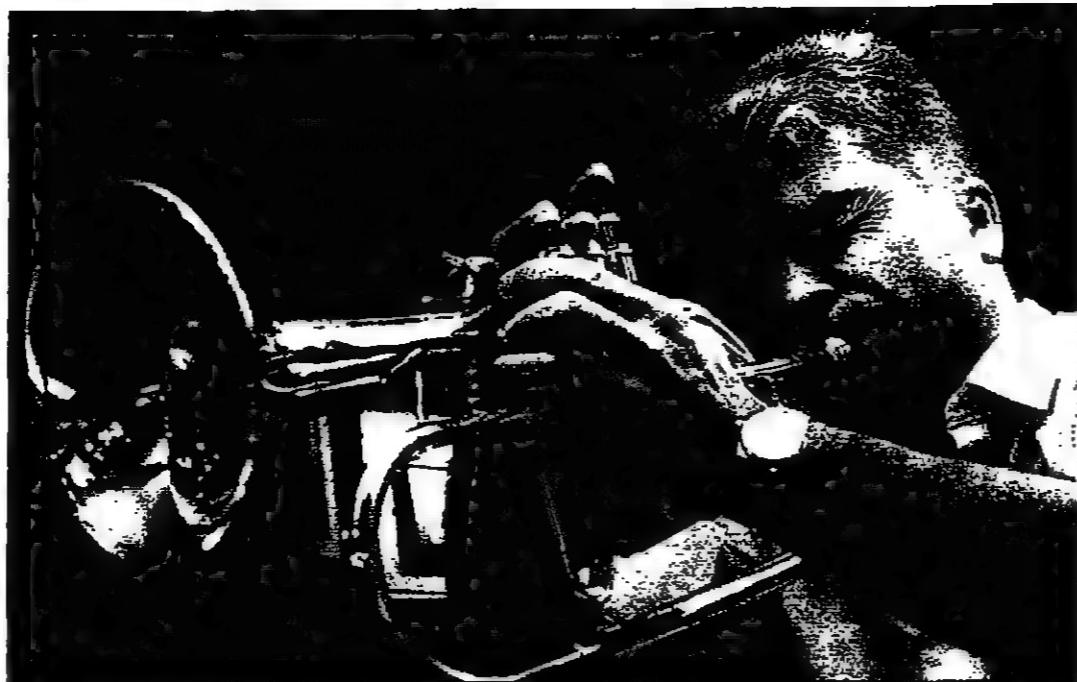
NatWest research shows that this is already happening — the average age of people starting up in 1988 was 33, but by 1991 it was 38. The result, said Mr Scott, would be a higher survival rate, because older people would have wider experience.

Another development would be a growth in niche markets as people sought more unusual themes or followed fashions, said Mr Scott. "The bank may need specialised managers to look after them," he said. He also expects more women entrepreneurs to level up the present 70/30 ratio.

The conference, sponsored by Microsoft, will be at the Royal Society on Thursday, October 17. The fee is £250 plus VAT. Details: 0171-374 2258.

# Advisers get a lesson in needs of the blind entrepreneur

By JENNIFER COX



Nick Hall says that his belief in himself musically has helped him to overcome blindness

A TRAINING programme to show business advisers how to help the blind and the partially sighted to set up their own businesses has been launched by the Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB). Funded with a £188,000 National Lotteries Charities Board grant over two years, the scheme aims to show organisations that provide advice and money for entrepreneurs the problems that visually impaired people have to overcome.

A greater proportion of businesses set up by blind and partially-sighted entrepreneurs are still going after three years than is the case with businesses started by the sighted. Yet access to continuing advice from banks and training and enterprise councils (Tecs), one of the key ways of preventing business failure, is rarely presented in a way that they can use.

Lack of venture capital, needing help with marketing and difficulties with mobility are some of the barriers that the sight-impaired come up against. Because they cannot see advertisements, most have little idea of competition, and information on assistance available to business is rarely provided in braille. Tecs also tend to target companies of more than 250 people, says Ann Boylan, manager of the RNIB's self-employment development unit. "So, if you are small and blind, nobody wants to listen," she says.

However, the biggest barrier, according to Ms Boylan, is persuading people that the blind are as capable as the sighted. "Perceptions are the worst barrier," she said.

Nick Hall, 39, who lost his sight 18 years ago, says that his belief in himself musically has helped him to overcome his disability. Flugelhorn and trumpet music that he has written and recorded is used on the training video. "A visual handi-

cap does not have to be a problem," he says. "Getting known is just a very long process."

At the start of each training day, a series of which start in London on September 25, the participating advisers will be handed a list of aims for the day — written in braille. "From the start, they will not know what is going on," Ms Boylan says. "We are reversing what happens to many of our clients."

After watching the video, there will be role-playing in which participants will be blindfolded, a discussion of myths and facts about being

blind and a plan drawn up of how a visually impaired person should be interviewed. Each person will also be asked to draw up an audit of their company's attitudes to sight-impaired people. The RNIB hopes to have 500 business advisers trained by the end of the first year.

Because of the difficulties that they face getting and retaining a job, many visually impaired people prefer to work for themselves. In a recent survey, 50 per cent of employers said that they would not hire anyone with "difficulty in seeing".

Of the 100,000 blind and partially-sighted people of working age in the United Kingdom, around two thirds do not have a job and more than half have not worked for ten years.

Having their own business puts visually impaired in control and gives them independence, Ms Boylan says. There is more job satisfaction and they do not have to put up with physical barriers or discriminatory attitudes in the workplace. "For many, though, there is no other option," she says.

RNIB awareness week, from September 9 to 15, involved urging the Government to look at weaknesses in the Disability Discrimination Act, which comes into effect on December 2, such as the exemption of small firms from its scope. However, overall the RNIB remains optimistic. Ann Boylan says: "Our blind and partially sighted clients demonstrate time and time again that anything is possible."

□ For information on the training awareness days, call the RNIB self-employment development unit on 0171-388 1266 ext 2224

## BRIEFINGS

### Virtual business on the Internet

A second three-month course in which people will set up virtual businesses on the Internet will be started by the London Enterprise Agency and University College London in January. Participants will join a business club when the course ends to help them with informal networking. For more details, call 0171-236 3000.

□ The Welsh Office will launch a helpline this autumn to provide technical advice and information for farmers considering switching to organic farming methods. The information will cover standards, registration, and the type of support available under the Government's Organic Aid scheme. Free follow-up farm visits will also be offered to provide detailed advice on the specific organic conversion needs of individual farmers.

□ BS7890, a new British Standard for prompt payment, has been launched by the Government to reduce the difficulties that small businesses face when payments are delayed. The standard sets out procedures for both buyers and sellers. Trading standards officers will be able to investigate cases of non-compliance by those claiming to abide by the standard. Copies of BS7890 may be obtained from the British Standards Institution, 0181-966 7000.

□ Air UK, the scheduled airline, is helping the Livewire campaign to encourage small businesses to break into export markets by providing 100 free and subsidised flights for owner-managers to visit potential markets.

□ A series of six workshops for Hampshire boatbuilders and others in the maritime industry begins at Hamble River Sailing Club on October 5. A heavy subsidy from Business Link Hampshire has brought down the cost to £20 plus VAT per workshop. Details from Mark Woodrooff on 01329 223203.

□ Three bodies in factoring and invoice discounting have joined to create the Factors & Discounters Association. It has 27 members financing sales of £37 million.

## Women begin to take the initiative

By RODNEY HOBSON



"If I paid this, I'd deserve to be certified too!"

SMALL business start-ups in the first six months of 1996 totalled 170,000, the same as in the first half of last year, figures produced by NatWest Bank show. The bank expects the total for this year to reach 350,000, an increase of 5 per cent on last year.

NatWest has noted a trend towards women setting up on

their own to provide personal services ranging from gardening and laundry to private tuition and aromatherapy.

Women start only three in ten new businesses, but more than half of the one-person operations. Ian Peters, head of small business, says: "Women are the business opportunists of the Nineties. They

are seeing, and even predicting, the gaps in the market and are more ready than ever to chase up the chances provided by the changing world of work."

"While women began to enter the boardrooms in a high-profile way in the Eighties, the fact that they are now establishing themselves as business developers of

the decade in one particular sector has largely gone unnoticed."

The new one-woman enterprises are mainly in the South and usually begun by women aged 25 to 34. They are overwhelmingly from the C1 and C2 social groups and work from home. Start-ups have tailed off in central London, with fewer than 2,000 in the second quarter.

### BUSINESS FOR SALE

**SCOTLAND** / Moray / For sale as a going concern complete with stock & fittings, premises, fixtures & fittings, goodwill, etc. Price: £10,000. Details: 0131 378 8700 (2 lines direct).

**WALES** / Transfer of lease, operating South West area of auctioneering group. Tenants given. Price: 01395 428 4287.

**FRANCE** / Investment - sheep and lamb. Survey. Annual rental £10,000. Details: 01272 514167.

**SPAIN COSTA BLANCA** / Restaurant and bar with 8 rooms and Leisure Centre, including, bowling Green, Pool, Tennis etc. Plus letting rooms and living accommodation. Sold fully equipped. F/H £375,000. Price: 01494 872 850 or Fax: Spain 0324 664 4173.

**UNUSUAL NURSING CARE HOME BUSINESS** / Registered Nurses and 4 Nurses required to manage a 24 hour residential care home, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Further opportunities for growth with greatest standard planning, personalisation. Personal circumstances leave and £740,000. Details: 01803 732195.

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**SCOTLAND** / Large garage business with 4 bays in Edinburgh. Leasehold. Price: £10,000. Details: 0131 220 6211.

**WALES** / A wide range of business opportunities available throughout the South West based on wholesale distribution, attractive franchise opportunities, franchises, partnerships, significant investment opportunities. Over 5000+ franchisees. Details: 01274 527 0011.

**AMERICA** / Management need. Co. needs. Management consulting & support. OPEX £100k. Details: 01992 622493.

**ENGLAND** / North Wales Retail Business. Retirement Sale of established business with 25 years experience. A great business opportunity. Details: 01244 370088.

**ENGLAND IN CRISIS?** / A FRESH START

Local your debt problems with our unique re-start program. \* A Clean New Company

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# Thirty years on, a Ramsey selection remains sound



IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
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INTERACTIVE

THIS week, the same man is the leading selector in the Interactive Team Football overall competition and the weekly winner. Mr J. Staszewicz, from Ramsey, Isle of Man, gained 37 points during the week, with his team, NST Monkstone, and is 11 points clear of the chasing pack overall. Mr Staszewicz wins £250 as the weekly winner.

It is the manager that has been Mr Staszewicz's most common transfer in the four weeks of ITF this season. Three managers in four weeks is not out of place when you consider the number of managers in the real world that have been dismissed during the opening weeks of the football season.

The composition of Mr Staszewicz's team is, as with many of the leading ITF selectors, liberally sprinkled with foreign players:

**Goalkeeper**  
D James (Liverpool)

**Full backs**  
S I Bjornbyne (Liverpool)  
J Edinburgh (Tottenham)

**Central defenders**  
F Leboeuf (Chelsea)  
S Campbell (Tottenham)

**Midfield players**  
D Windass (Aberdeen)  
A Asanovic (Derby)  
G McSwegan (Dundee Utd)  
Juninho (Middlesbrough)

**Strikers**  
D Saunders (Nottingham Forest)  
F Ravanelli (Middlesbrough)

**Manager**  
T Burns (Celtic)



Pierre van Hooijdonk is a prolific goalscorer for Celtic, even if he has struggled to score in European competition



It is early days, but if your team could be doing better, with your players lacking form and fitness, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. You can use the ITF transfer system which allows you to

change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the 0891 866 968 line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call 0044 990 200 668.

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

□ All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.

| THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS |                                    |                   |        |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| IN                    | George Graham                      | Leeds United      | £2.00m |
| MOVED                 | Tommy McLennan (from Rath Roivert) | Dundee United     | £0.75m |
| OUT                   | Howard Wilkinson                   | Leeds United      | £2.00m |
|                       | Billy Kirkwood                     | Dundee United     | £0.50m |
|                       | Chris Waddle                       | Shelved Wednesday | £1.50m |
|                       | David Preece                       | Derby County      | £0.50m |

□ All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.

## HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1995-96 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

| POINTS SCORED              |                 |      |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------|
| Goalkeeper                 | Striker         | 2pts |
| Keeps clean sheet*         | Score goal      | 2pts |
| Scored goal                | All players     | 1pt  |
| Saves penalty              | Appearance      | 1pt  |
| Full back/Central defender | Score hat-trick | 6pts |
| Keeps clean sheet*         | Manager         | 3pts |
| Scored goal                | Team wins       | 3pts |
| Midfield player            | Team draws      | 1pt  |
| Keeps clean sheet*         | 1pt             | 1pt  |
| Scored goal                | 2pts            | 1pt  |

| POINTS DEDUCTED                                 |                  |     |
|---|------------------|-----|
| Goalkeeper                                      | Booted           | 1pt |
| Concedes goal                                   | Concedes penalty | 1pt |
| Full back/Central defender                      | Misuses penalty  | 1pt |
| Concedes goal                                   | Score own goal   | 1pt |
| All players                                     | Manager          | 1pt |
| Goal kick off                                   | Team losses      | 1pt |
| or more have played for 75 minutes in the match | —                | —   |
| 1 must have played for 45 minutes in the match  | —                | —   |

| ITF TRANSFER SYSTEM                             |                  |     |
|---|------------------|-----|
| Goalkeeper                                      | Booted           | 1pt |
| Concedes goal                                   | Concedes penalty | 1pt |
| Full back/Central defender                      | Misuses penalty  | 1pt |
| Concedes goal                                   | Score own goal   | 1pt |
| All players                                     | Manager          | 1pt |
| Goal kick off                                   | Team losses      | 1pt |
| or more have played for 75 minutes in the match | —                | —   |
| 1 must have played for 45 minutes in the match  | —                | —   |



Call the ITF checklist on  
0891 864 643  
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a \* and a hash key are Touch-tone). Your PIN code and your team's PIN code made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

| Pos | Team                | (Player's name)  | Pts |
|-----|---------------------|------------------|-----|
| 1   | NST Monkstone       | J Staszewicz     | 159 |
| 2   | Nobby 34            | I Brown          | 148 |
| 3   | Best Of The Best    | R Ruparelia      | 145 |
| 4   | Daggers             | V Cox            | 144 |
| 5   | The Foreign Legion  | S Allen          | 143 |
| 6   | Ginger              | T P Leahy        | 142 |
| 7   | Flying Foreigners   | D Thomas         | 142 |
| 8   | Alderscire Villa    | M Jukes          | 140 |
| 9   | White Feathers      | M Catchpole      | 139 |
| 10  | Esses Eagles 96 FC  | C Jennings       | 139 |
| 11  | A2                  | K Farrelly       | 138 |
| 12  | Non Englishmen XI   | J Mohammed       | 138 |
| 13  | John Hunt Taunton H | J Hunt           | 138 |
| 14  | Erevenge On Judas F | N Hir            | 138 |
| 15  | Abian Hornets XI    | A Hynes          | 137 |
| 16  | On The Up Two       | C Corfield       | 137 |
| 17  | On The Up One       | G Corfield       | 137 |
| 18  | Difc                | D Findlay        | 137 |
| 19  | Arte's Allstars     | A Bangi          | 137 |
| 20  | Goofy's 2nd 11      | P Houston        | 136 |
| 21  | Steve's Spurs       | F Foster         | 136 |
| 22  | Beyond Fault        | S West           | 136 |
| 23  | West Wonderers      | A Luckhurst      | 136 |
| 24  | Caroline B          | J Palmer         | 136 |
| 25  | Priory Rangers      | L McCullagh      | 136 |
| 26  | Sky Times III       | J Brown          | 135 |
| 27  | Nobby 5             | P Ford           | 135 |
| 28  | Mean Machine        | M Skippin        | 135 |
| 29  | AC Fantasy FC       | J Rahim          | 134 |
| 30  | The Triple Double   | T Fashly         | 134 |
| 31  | Plastic Filters 10  | R Shackleton     | 134 |
| 32  | Shock Attack        | J M Brown        | 134 |
| 33  | Caps United         | M Jones          | 133 |
| 34  | Jones Boys Three    | I Kaderchay      | 133 |
| 35  | Watch Out United    | G Singh Mangat   | 133 |
| 36  | AC Domestos         | F K Taylor       | 133 |
| 37  | Arrogent FC         | G Bannister      | 133 |
| 38  | The Trewter         | A Crank          | 133 |
| 39  | Evans Above FC      | I Longstaff      | 132 |
| 40  | Staffie             | R Ayres          | 132 |
| 41  | Plan BFC            | D Connamon       | 132 |
| 42  | Keltic Warriors     | I Waylor         | 132 |
| 43  | Snappers United     | M Gaynor         | 132 |
| 44  | Natashka's Team     | N Macfarlane     | 132 |
| 45  | Smallbone Rovers    | A Sowd           | 132 |
| 46  | Thom Foolery FC     | M Horan          | 132 |
| 47  | The Big Danes FC    | C Solomons       | 131 |
| 48  | Hulton Hotspur      | P Sheridan       | 131 |
| 49  | Class 1             | R J Weston       | 131 |
| 50  | Le Boost And 2 Veg  | M Sawday         | 131 |
| 51  | Where's Ray Gone?   | P Fromm          | 130 |
| 52  | Moldova             | I Adous          | 130 |
| 53  | Beyond Care         | P Foster         | 130 |
| 54  | NIC3                | N Ross           | 130 |
| 55  | Cheer Up Mr Greaves | J Wright         | 130 |
| 56  | Matthews XI         | M Caunt          | 130 |
| 57  | Fantasy FC          | B Self           | 130 |
| 58  | Europe's Best       | P O'Donnell      | 130 |
| 59  | Rainbow Captains    | G Weiss          | 130 |
| 60  | AB 4                | A Boyland        | 129 |
| 61  | Polly's Pride       | P Smiley         | 128 |
| 62  | Leyton's Lions      | R Layton         | 128 |
| 63  | Hup Harrington      | A Land           | 128 |
| 64  | 4 4 2               | K Brown          | 128 |
| 65  | RBL Rangers         | T Chapman        | 128 |
| 66  | Kamby United        | N Hussain        | 128 |
| 67  | Blue Stars          | N Broomehill     | 128 |
| 68  | Toto Calcio         | A Days           | 128 |
| 69  | PJ Thistle          | R Newbold        | 128 |
| 70  | Dutch Courage       | R van Ruttelbeck | 128 |

| Pos | Team                | (Player's name) | Pts |
|-----|---------------------|-----------------|-----|
| 69  | Turner's Earmers 1  | P Turner        | 128 |
| 70  | United In Footy     | O Atton         | 128 |
| 71  | John Hunt Taunton E | M Jones         | 128 |
| 72  | Nobby 3             | J Hunt          | 128 |
| 73  | The Foreign Legion  | J Brown         | 128 |
| 74  | Storm               | A Cheung        | 128 |
| 75  | Perkin's Wizards    | P Mills         | 128 |
| 76  | PMI Select          | J Parkin        | 128 |
| 77  | Sydney's Boys       | M Kitchen       | 128 |
| 78  | Shooting Stars      | S Scott         | 128 |
| 79  | Patio's Allstars    | D Patson        | 128 |
| 80  | Matt's Marvels      | M Prantice      | 128 |
| 81  | LA Stars            | L Alum          | 128 |
| 82  | E                   | M Corrigan      | 128 |
| 83  | Lesley's Legmen     | I Michaelis     | 128 |
| 84  | John Hunt Taunton F | J Hunt          | 128 |
| 85  | WhtaFC3             | G Abinson       | 128 |
| 86  | Selly Luca          | M Jones         | 128 |
| 87  | Bad Time Boys       | R Crook         | 128 |
| 88  | The Foreign Legion  | R Hunter        | 128 |
| 89  | Thames Hotshots     | B Cannon        | 128 |
| 90  | Soccer Superstars   | J McCallion     | 1   |

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

## GOALKEEPER

| Code  | Name           | Team              | Sm.  | Wk. Ch. | Pts. |
|-------|----------------|-------------------|------|---------|------|
| 10101 | M Watt         | Aberdeen          | 1.50 | 0 -3    |      |
| 10102 | N Walker       | Aberdeen          | 1.00 | +5 +4   |      |
| 10201 | D Seaman       | Arsenal           | 5.00 | 0 +7    |      |
| 10202 | V Bartram      | Arsenal           | 0.75 | 0 +0    |      |
| 10203 | J Lukic        | Arsenal           | 0.75 | 0 +8    |      |
| 10301 | M Bosnich      | Aston Villa       | 3.50 | 0 +0    |      |
| 10302 | M Oakes        | Aston Villa       | 1.00 | -1 +8   |      |
| 10401 | T Flowers      | Blackburn         | 3.00 | -5 +4   |      |
| 10402 | S Given        | Blackburn         | 2.00 | -5 +0   |      |
| 10501 | G Marshall     | Celtic            | 2.50 | -1 +2   |      |
| 10601 | D Kharine      | Chester           | 2.50 | +0 +10  |      |
| 10602 | K Hitchcock    | Chester           | 2.00 | -1 +0   |      |
| 10701 | S Ogrizovic    | Coventry City     | 1.50 | -1 -19  |      |
| 10702 | J Flan         | Coventry City     | 0.50 | 0 +0    |      |
| 10801 | M Taylor       | Derby County      | 1.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 10802 | R Hoult        | Derby County      | 1.00 | +4 +6   |      |
| 10803 | A Maxwell      | Dundee United     | 0.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 10804 | L Key          | Dundee United     | 0.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11001 | I Westwater    | Dunfermline       | 0.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11101 | N Southall     | Everton           | 2.50 | +0 +4   |      |
| 11102 | J Kearton      | Everton           | 0.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11103 | P Gerrard      | Everton           | 2.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11201 | G Rousset      | Harrow            | 2.00 | +0 +4   |      |
| 11301 | J Leighton     | Hibernian         | 1.50 | +0 +4   |      |
| 11401 | D Lekovic      | Kilmarnock        | 1.00 | +0 +8   |      |
| 11501 | M Beeney       | Leeds United      | 1.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11502 | P Evans        | Leeds United      | 0.25 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11503 | N Martyn       | Leeds United      | 2.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11601 | K Poole        | Leicester City    | 1.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11602 | Z Kalcic       | Leicester City    | 0.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11603 | K Keller       | Leicester City    | 1.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11701 | D James        | Liverpool         | 5.00 | +5 +1   |      |
| 11702 | A Warner       | Liverpool         | 0.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11801 | P Schmeichel   | Manchester Utd    | 5.00 | -1 +1   |      |
| 11802 | R van der Gouw | Manchester Utd    | 1.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11901 | G Welsh        | Middlesbrough     | 1.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11902 | A Miller       | Middlesbrough     | 1.50 | +1 +4   |      |
| 12001 | S Howie        | Motherwell        | 1.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 12101 | S Hislop       | Newcastle Utd     | 4.00 | +0 +3   |      |
| 12102 | P Smits        | Newcastle Utd     | 3.00 | +0 +3   |      |
| 12201 | M Crossley     | Nottingham Forest | 2.50 | -7 +6   |      |
| 12202 | A Fettis       | Nottingham Forest | 0.75 | +0 +0   |      |
| 12203 | T Wright       | Nottingham Forest | 0.75 | +0 +0   |      |
| 12301 | S Thomson      | Path              | 0.50 | +0 -19  |      |
| 12401 | A Goram        | Rangers           | 5.00 | +5 +12  |      |
| 12501 | K Pressman     | Sheffield Wed     | 2.00 | +0 -1   |      |
| 12601 | D Beasant      | Southampton       | 1.00 | +1 -5   |      |
| 12602 | N Moss         | Southampton       | 0.25 | +0 +3   |      |
| 12702 | L Perez        | Sunderland        | 0.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 11803 | A Coton        | Sunderland        | 1.00 | +1 +10  |      |
| 12801 | I Walker       | Tottenham         | 3.50 | +5 +10  |      |
| 12901 | M Kitlosko     | West Ham          | 2.00 | +3 -10  |      |
| 13001 | N Sullivan     | Wimbledon         | 1.00 | +5 +5   |      |
| 13002 | P Heald        | Wimbledon         | 1.00 | 0 0     |      |



Ally McCoist, the Rangers forward, makes his club colleagues happy. But are you happy with his tally in ITF?

## DEFENDER

| Code    | Name          | Team           | Sm.  | Wk. Ch. | Pts. |
|---------|---------------|----------------|------|---------|------|
| 30001   | U Ebulogu     | Aston Villa    | 3.00 | -1 +12  |      |
| 30002   | P McGrath     | Aston Villa    | 2.50 | 0 0     |      |
| 30003   | C Tiler       | Aston Villa    | 1.00 | 0 0     |      |
| 30004   | R Scimeca     | Aston Villa    | 1.00 | 0 0     |      |
| 30005   | C Hendry      | Blackburn      | 4.00 | -3 -5   |      |
| 30006   | I Pearce      | Blackburn      | 2.50 | 0 0     |      |
| 30007   | C Coleman     | Blackburn      | 2.50 | -4 -7   |      |
| 30008   | N Marke       | Blackburn      | 0.50 | 0 0     |      |
| 30009   | T Boyd        | Celtic         | 3.00 | +0 +4   |      |
| 30010   | M MacKay      | Celtic         | 1.50 | +3 +3   |      |
| 30011   | A Stubbs      | Celtic         | 3.50 | +0 +1   |      |
| 30012   | M Dubarry     | Chelsea        | 2.50 | +0 -2   |      |
| 30013   | F Leboeuf     | Chelsea        | 2.50 | +3 +23  |      |
| 30014   | F Sinclair    | Chelsea        | 2.00 | 0 0     |      |
| 30015   | D Lee         | Chelsea        | 2.00 | 0 0     |      |
| 30016   | A Myers       | Chelsea        | 1.50 | +0 +10  |      |
| 30017   | E Johnsen     | Chelsea        | 1.50 | +0 +13  |      |
| 30018   | J Kjelberg    | Chelsea        | 0.50 | 0 0     |      |
| 30019   | L Deish       | Coventry City  | 2.00 | +0 -6   |      |
| 30020   | R Shaw        | Coventry City  | 1.50 | +0 -5   |      |
| 30021   | D Busst       | Coventry City  | 1.00 | +0 0    |      |
| 30022   | I Stuani      | Derby County   | 2.50 | +3 +0   |      |
| 30023   | J Laursen     | Derby County   | 1.00 | +4 +3   |      |
| 30024   | M Carbon      | Derby County   | 0.50 | +1 +1   |      |
| 30025   | S Pressley    | Dundee United  | 1.00 | -1 -1   |      |
| 30026   | M Nelson      | Aston Villa    | 3.00 | +1 +4   |      |
| 30027   | H Berg        | Blackburn      | 3.00 | -2 +4   |      |
| 30028   | G Le Saux     | Blackburn      | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30029   | J Kenny       | Blackburn      | 3.00 | -4 +4   |      |
| 30030   | G Crot        | Blackburn      | 1.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30031   | J McNamara    | Celtic         | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30032   | T McKinlay    | Celtic         | 3.00 | +0 +4   |      |
| 30033   | G Charles     | Aston Villa    | 2.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30034   | P King        | Aston Villa    | 0.25 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30035   | D Nelson      | Aston Villa    | 3.00 | +1 +4   |      |
| 30036   | I den Blieken | Dundee United  | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30037   | D Unsworth    | Everton        | 2.50 | +2 +3   |      |
| 30038   | D Watson      | Everton        | 2.50 | +0 +1   |      |
| 30039   | C Short       | Everton        | 2.00 | +2 +2   |      |
| 30040   | D McPherson   | Hearts         | 1.00 | -3 -2   |      |
| 30041   | P Ritchie     | Hearts         | 1.00 | +5 +1   |      |
| 30042   | J McLaughlin  | Hibernian      | 0.50 | +1 -4   |      |
| 30043   | D Powell      | Derby County   | 1.00 | +2 +4   |      |
| 30044   | B Deane       | Derby County   | 1.00 | +2 +4   |      |
| 30045   | M Reilly      | Kilmarnock     | 1.00 | +2 -3   |      |
| 30046   | R Montgomery  | Kilmarnock     | 0.75 | +0 -3   |      |
| 30047   | D Wetherall   | Leeds United   | 2.50 | -1 +1   |      |
| 30048   | R Jobson      | Leeds United   | 1.00 | -1 0    |      |
| 30049   | L Radbe       | Leeds United   | 1.00 | +0 5    |      |
| 30050   | J Pemberton   | Leeds United   | 0.50 | +0 0    |      |
| 30051   | S Walsh       | Leicester City | 1.00 | +2 +2   |      |
| 30052   | J Wilts       | Leicester City | 1.00 | -1 +5   |      |
| 30053   | P Kamark      | Leicester City | 0.50 | +0 0    |      |
| 30054   | S Prior       | Leicester City | 1.00 | +0 +1   |      |
| 30055   | P Babbs       | Liverpool      | 3.50 | +4 +16  |      |
| 30056   | D Peacock     | Liverpool      | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30057   | N Phillips    | Liverpool      | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30058   | J Scales      | Liverpool      | 3.50 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30059   | M Wright      | Liverpool      | 3.50 | +4 +12  |      |
| 30060   | M Ruddock     | Liverpool      | 3.00 | +0 0    |      |
| 30061   | D Maitoo      | Liverpool      | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30062   | G Pallister   | Manchester Utd | 3.50 | +0 +2   |      |
| 30063   | R Johnson     | Manchester Utd | 3.00 | +0 +6   |      |
| 30064   | P Albert      | Newcastle Utd  | 4.50 | +0 0    |      |
| 30065   | S Howey       | Newcastle Utd  | 3.00 | +0 +2   |      |
| 30066   | D Peacock     | Newcastle Utd  | 3.00 | +0 0    |      |
| 30067   | N Tinkler     | Newton Forest  | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30068   | L Sharpe      | Newton Forest  | 3.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30069   | N Lennon      | Leicester City | 2.00 | +1 +1   |      |
| 30070   | C Palmer      | Leeds United   | 2.00 | +1 +7   |      |
| 30071   | R Wallace     | Leeds United   | 1.50 | +0 0    |      |
| 30072   | M Kennedy     | Leeds United   | 1.00 | +1 +11  |      |
| 30073   | M Ford        | Leeds United   | 0.50 | +0 +4   |      |
| 30074   | J Lawrence    | Leeds United   | 1.00 | +1 +11  |      |
| 30075   | M Izquierdo   | Leeds United   | 1.00 | +0 +2   |      |
| 30076   | J McManaman   | Leeds United   | 1.00 | +1 +1   |      |
| 30077   | D Walker      | Sheffield Wed  | 1.50 | +0 +3   |      |
| 30078   | J Lauchlan    | Kilmarnock     | 0.50 | +0 +2   |      |
| 30079   | R Glenshane   | Kilmarnock     | 1.00 | +0 +1   |      |
| 30080   | N Butt        | Liverpool      | 4.00 | +0 +8   |      |
| 30081   | J Redknapp    | Liverpool      | 4.00 | +0 0    |      |
| 30082   | J Barnes      | Liverpool      | 1.00 | +1 +4   |      |
| 30083   | R Wallace     | Liverpool      | 1.00 | +0 +0   |      |
| 30084   | M Thomas      | Liverpool      | 2.50 | +4 +11  |      |
| 30085</ |               |                |      |         |      |

# THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17 1996

## NEWS

### Missing bishop steps down

A new crisis over celibacy threatened the stability of the Roman Catholic Church after the resignation of the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, who is believed to be in hiding with the woman he loves.

The Right Rev Roderick Wright quit during an emotional meeting with the leader of Scotland's Roman Catholics, who told him he could remain a priest only if he gave up his longstanding friendship with Kathleen Macphee ..... Page 1

### Tories accuse 'aggressive' Anna Ford

The Conservative Party accused Anna Ford, the *Today* programme presenter, of "a disgraceful lapse from impartiality" in an interview with Kenneth Clarke, which the Chancellor terminated, and lodged a complaint with the BBC alleging she had been "aggressive" and "extremely rude" ..... Page 1

### Beef ultimatum

The Florence deal to end the British beef ban seemed shakier than ever after EU ministers told Britain it must stick to a widespread slaughter programme ..... Page 1

### Ashdown attack

Paddy Ashdown today delivers his strongest criticism of the way the European Union operates in a move that will be seen as responding to growing fears that his party's pro-Europeanism may deter voters ..... Page 1

### Prince's task

The Prince of Wales will take over an increasing number of official duties from the Queen, now 70, but he faces life without Camilla Parker Bowles in any of his public roles ..... Page 2

### Horses killed

Four racehorses were killed after a suspected arson attack on the stables of one of Britain's top trainers swept through an indoor riding barn ..... Page 3

### Rapist gets life

A multiple rapist, twice released from prison only to attack women again, was jailed for life with the recommendation that he serve at least 20 years ..... Page 3

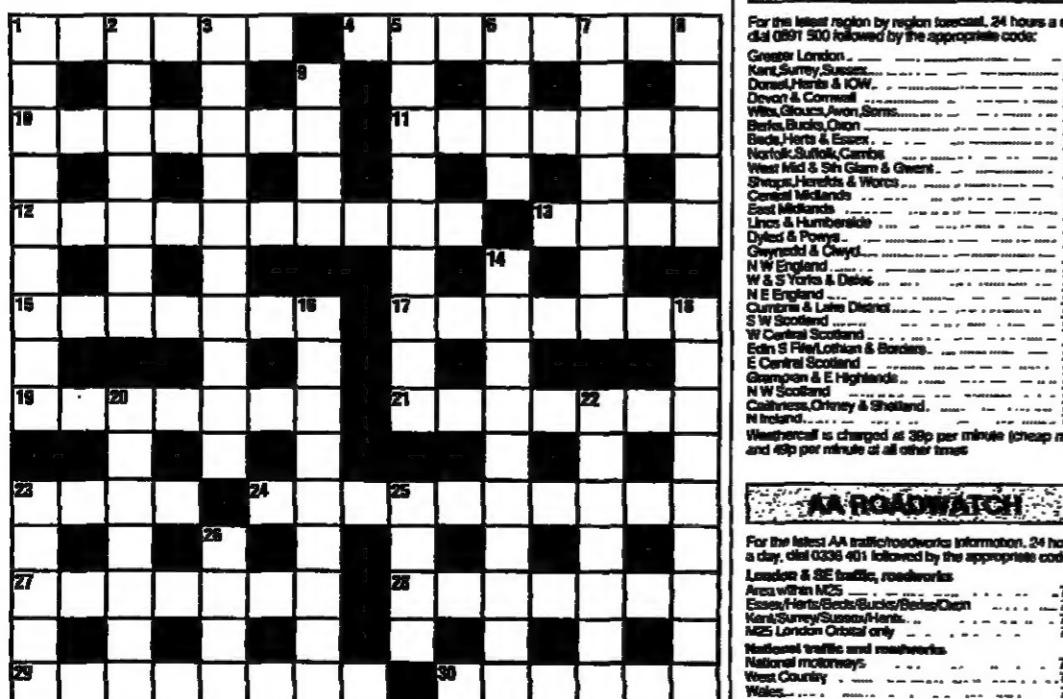
### No tales told

Government plans to identify and deal with incompetent teachers are backfiring because inspectors are reluctant to "point the finger", head teachers say ..... Page 4

### Scouts prepare for twentieth century

■ Scouts are to get a new badge to sew on their uniforms alongside those for tying knots and campfire cookery — one to mark their prowess at public relations. The PR skills proficiency badge features a symbolic mobile telephone, a piece of equipment likely to rank alongside a trusty penknife and woggle as essential scouting kit ..... Page 1

## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,275



### ACROSS

- Use strap to put across six — lay it on thick! (6).
- One comic made funny consumer (8).
- Fellow on beat making contact, at some point? (7).
- It's involved in snort (one side) (7).
- Fair play in a fight after first part of it (10).
- He may have pride in being a celebrity (4).
- Like Preying Tom looking round, taking shelter at the start? (7).
- Port where some Orangemen live? (7).
- Why, say, overhead cover is showing a gap? (7).
- Formulates and writes out, and puts in order (5,2).
- Publication, one for wise long-distance travellers (4).
- Castle having powerful influence in combination (10).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,274

### SELF-SATISFIED

PU U H E F E B  
RECEPTION FIFER  
I I E E D Y E E  
NADIR VIOL DADA  
G D E F C T  
COLOURS FLEMISH  
L O P N S I  
EGGHEAD BATSMAN  
A I R O R R G  
NOISY BLUE EMBUS  
I T B P A H E P  
NAIVE HYDRANGEA  
G C A T L I C  
SIT ON THE FENCE

- Reduction in overheads for religious order? (7).
- Earpiece that's given trouble returned to plant? (7).
- Leader of horde with no weapons is not a threat (8).
- Bumble bee circling frantic lad (6).

### DOWN

- Fired a lot of shots without point? Exactly so! (9).
- Hazard from discharge to river (7).
- Rate capping on the way? (5,5).
- Escorted prisoner taken by tube (9).
- Comfortable home in Vine Street (4).
- Skill one needs to put into short drink? (7).
- He may make money, about a pound (5).
- Attempt to make crazy climb (4).
- Out of touch with Latin, begin afresh (10).
- Dynamic people needing leave to obtain rest in resort (2,7).
- Deny celebrity's holding up help (9).
- Chance to engage working driver (7).
- Animal loaded into transport looked angry (7).
- Striker from union (5).
- The Italian contribution in monumental art (4).
- Seek satisfaction with a second helping (4).

Times Two Crossword page 48

### WEATHER WATCH

For the latest AA traffic information, 24 hours a day, call 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London: 721  
Kent, Surrey & Sussex: 722  
Dorset, Hampshire & W. IOW.: 723  
Cornwall, Devon & Bristol: 724  
Wes. Gloucester, Hereford & Worcester: 725  
Berkshire, Bucks, Oxon & Wilts: 726  
Shropshire, Cheshire, N. Staffs, N. Warwickshire, N. Nottingh., N. Derbyshire, N. Nottinghamshire, N. Lincolnshire, N. Humberside, N. Yorkshire & N. Lancs: 727  
West Midlands: 728  
Midlands: 729  
Wales: 730  
Dyfed & Powys: 731  
Gwent & Cardiff: 732  
NW England: 733  
W & S Yorks & Derby: 734  
NE England: 735  
Cumbria, Lancashire & S. W. Scotland: 736  
S. W. Scotland: 737  
Orkney & Shetland: 738  
E Central Scotland: 739  
Galloway & E. Highlands: 740  
N.W. Highlands: 741  
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland: 742  
N Ireland: 743

Windscreens charged at 30p per minute (switch rate) and 40p per minute at all other times

For the latest AA traffic information, 24 hours a day, call 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE England, roadworks: 721  
Greater London, roadworks: 722  
Kent/Surrey/Hants: 723  
Dorset/Hants: 724  
Bournemouth: 725  
Bristol: 726  
South Wales: 727  
Cardiff: 728  
Dyfed/Powys: 729  
Gwent/Cardiff: 730  
NE England: 731  
Cumbria: 732  
Lancashire: 733  
W. Midlands: 734  
Midlands: 735  
Wales: 736  
Dyfed/Powys: 737  
Gwent/Cardiff: 738  
NW England: 739  
W. Yorks/Derby: 740  
S. Yorks/Derby: 741  
Cheshire: 742  
Shropshire: 743  
W. Midlands: 744  
Midlands: 745  
Wales: 746  
Dyfed/Powys: 747  
Gwent/Cardiff: 748  
NW England: 749  
W. Yorks/Derby: 750  
S. Yorks/Derby: 751  
Cheshire: 752  
Shropshire: 753  
Midlands: 754  
Wales: 755  
Dyfed/Powys: 756  
Gwent/Cardiff: 757  
NW England: 758  
W. Yorks/Derby: 759  
S. Yorks/Derby: 760  
Cheshire: 761  
Shropshire: 762  
Midlands: 763  
Wales: 764  
Dyfed/Powys: 765  
Gwent/Cardiff: 766  
NW England: 767  
W. Yorks/Derby: 768  
S. Yorks/Derby: 769  
Cheshire: 770  
Shropshire: 771  
Midlands: 772  
Wales: 773  
Dyfed/Powys: 774  
Gwent/Cardiff: 775  
NW England: 776  
W. Yorks/Derby: 777  
S. Yorks/Derby: 778  
Cheshire: 779  
Shropshire: 780  
Midlands: 781  
Wales: 782  
Dyfed/Powys: 783  
Gwent/Cardiff: 784  
NW England: 785  
W. Yorks/Derby: 786  
S. Yorks/Derby: 787  
Cheshire: 788  
Shropshire: 789  
Midlands: 790  
Wales: 791  
Dyfed/Powys: 792  
Gwent/Cardiff: 793  
NW England: 794  
W. Yorks/Derby: 795  
S. Yorks/Derby: 796  
Cheshire: 797  
Shropshire: 798  
Midlands: 799  
Wales: 800  
Dyfed/Powys: 801  
Gwent/Cardiff: 802  
NW England: 803  
W. Yorks/Derby: 804  
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